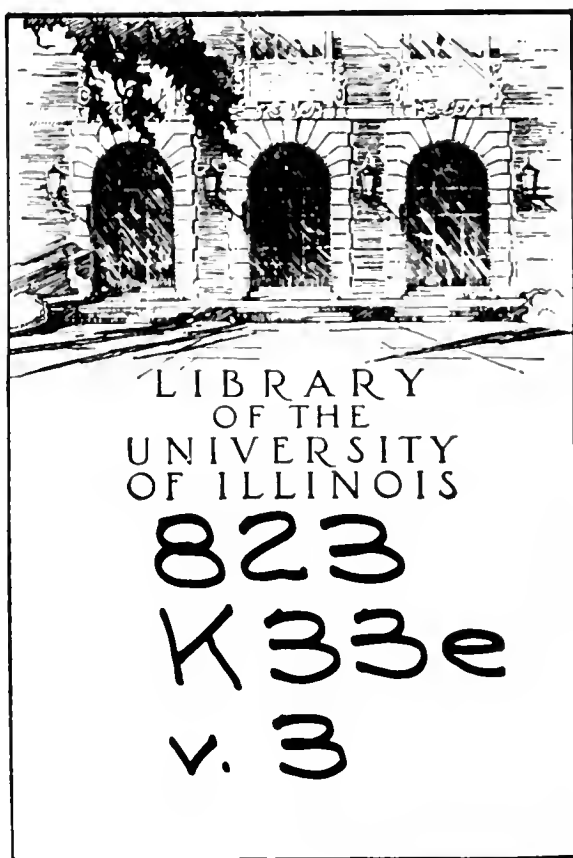




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THE ENGLISH BOY

AT

THE CAPE.

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— Charles, I got the sheep and their little ones, and
 while the venerable B. or some of his kindred
 with their condition and quantity, and the
 amazing numbers

V. J. W. 1840

LONDON.

PRINTED BY WHITTAKER & CO. AVI MARIA LANE

THE
ENGLISH BOY
AT
THE CAPE:

AN ANGLO-AFRICAN STORY.

BY THE
AUTHOR OF KEEPER'S TRAVELS.

"The world my country, and my friend mankind!"

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. III.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR WHITTAKER & Co.
AVE MARIA LANE.

1835.

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THE
ENGLISH BOY
AT
THE CAPE.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Thy golden sunshine comes
From the round heaven, and on their dwelling lies,
And lights their inner homes :—
For them thou fill'st with air th' unbounded skies,
And givest forth the stores
Of ocean, and the harvests of its shores.

BRYANT.

“A FINE Caffre,” it has been observed, “gives the idea of the human animal in the highest possible condition.” “The figures of these people,” it has been added, (with immediate reference, however, to a particular tribe or nation of Caffres,—for there are many,) “are the noblest that

my eye ever gazed upon ; their movements the most graceful, and their attitudes the proudest, standing like forms of monumental bronze.”—“I was much struck,” says the traveller now quoted, “with the strong resemblance that a group of Caffres bears to the Greek and Etruscan antique remains, except that the savage drapery is more scanty, and falls in simpler folds. Their mantles, like those seen on the ancient vases, are generally fastened over the shoulder of the naked arm, while the other side is wholly concealed; but they have many ways of wearing the *carosse*, or mantle, and of giving variety to their only garment.” To this identical tribe or nation, (which is that possessing, for about two hundred miles, from west to east, the country bordering upon the colony,) belonged to the party in whose hands events had now delivered Charles. Their total number is roughly estimated at eighty thousand souls, and they live under the several governments of four principal *incoes*, kings, or chiefs¹,

¹ The Caffre word *inco* may deserve comparison with the Peruvian word *inca*, it having the same meaning. The entire difference of complexion, nevertheless, forbids us to suppose an affinity between the Peruvians and Black Caffres.

This latter people we are disposed to think of the same race with the Macrobian Ethiopians of Herodotus. The African Ethiopians, properly so called, appear common to the whole length of the eastern side of the continent.

all descended from Toguh¹, the ancient lord of the country; but of whose respective pedigrees that of Hinza is the proudest, as most direct. They give to themselves the name of Amakosi, and to their country that of Amacosini; but these words really imply nothing more particular than “the men,” or “the people,” and the “country of the men,” or “of the people.” Like all the rest of the Caffre tribes or nations, they have another name distinguishing them from the other Caffres, who to them are foreigners; and who, as well as having their own separate governments, are often enemies in war.

We are speaking, however, of none but the Black Caffres. The name of “Caffre,” as before intimated, is repeated by the Portuguese and the English as it falls from Moorish lips, upon which it means “heathens;” and, in the Moorish or Arabic sense or usage, means as much English and Portuguese, and all other nations that are not Mohammedan, as it means

¹ Is Toguh a name of God, claimed, under so many different names, as the *first king* of so many nations? It is doubtless thus with Targitaus, (at other times called Hercules,) the father of the Scythians, and of their line of kings.

Is it, too, because the family of Hinsä is held to be the elder branch of so divine a race, that they are in so much reverence, even with the other *incoes*? See the first volume of our work, page 9.

these particular people of the south-east of Africa¹. But, if, putting the Bushmen out of view, we first distinguish the Caffres from the Negroes, or nations of central Africa, which, for the most part, are equally "heathen" with the Caffres; then, we are next to distinguish the Black Caffres of the south of the Negro country, from the Falatahs of the north, who seem to be sometimes called Red Caffres, and who, in truth, resemble the Black Caffres in their figure, and, unless where reclaimed, in their modes of life and *heathenism*, but not in their complexion; for the Falatahs, or Red Caffres, except that, at the lowest, they are pastoral and agricultural, bear a certain comparison with the Indians of America, while the Black Caffres, even in their rudeness, have similitudes to some of the most highly civilized of the Indians of Asia: there being, in the south of the Indian Peninsula, Hindoos as black as the Black Caffres, while they are as small and slight as the Bushmen on the west of the southern

¹ The wideness of the meaning of the national name of Caffre, in a Mohammedan mouth, is illustrated by the circumstance, that in India, another Caffrestan, or Caffreland, or Caffraria (that is, another heathen territory), is spoken of, the situation of which is behind the Indian Caucasus, or Cohn, or Cosh, or Cush, or *Cash*; and adjoining to *Cashgur*.

point of Africa. The Black Caffres, then, as a race, inhabit the south-eastern coasts of Africa, stretching inland, in the direction of Cape Town, till they meet the ancient country of the Bushmen, or Wild Hottentots¹.

¹ In the reign of Xerxes, (reckoned B. C. 486,) a Persian, named Sataspes, undertook, as the alternative between that task, and the suffering of capital punishment for a crime which he had committed, to attempt the circumnavigation of Africa, setting out from his port in Egypt, in the Mediterranean, and returning by the Indian Ocean, or Arabian Sea: "Continuing his voyage," says Herodotus, "for several months, in which he passed over an immense tract of sea, he saw no probable termination of his labours, and therefore sailed back to Egypt. Returning to the court of Xerxes, he, amongst other things, related, that in the most remote places he had visited, he had seen a people of diminutive appearance, clothed in red garments, who, on the approach of his vessel to the shore, had deserted their habitations, and fled to the mountains. But he affirmed that his people, satisfied with taking a supply of provisions, offered them no violence. He denied the possibility of making the circuit of Africa, as his vessel was totally unable to proceed. Xerxes gave no credit to his assertions; and, as he had not fulfilled the terms imposed on him, he was executed, according to his former sentence." Beloe's translation, book iv. Melpomene, c. 43.—Now we quote this passage, in order to submit to the reader our opinion of the probability, that this "people of diminutive appearance," and the country which they inhabited, both of which the unfortunate Sataspes reported to Xerxes that he saw, were the people and country of the Hottentots; and that thus, among other things, we carry back some account of that people, and of their abode in their present country, for twenty-three hundred years. "The immense

These Caffres, then, are a people of full stature, Roman features, long hair, and jet-black complexion. It may here be observed, in pass-

tract of sea," that, as the historian adds, he described himself to have passed over, before he reached those "most remote places" to which he assigns this diminutive people, assists our persuasion, that he had actually so nearly reached the Cape, as to have found the country of the Hottentots; and that, at all events, from this, as well as from the "several months" that his previous voyage had lasted, he was not far from that Weedy or Grassy Sea, which, for so large a space, upon either side of the equator, is spread over the Atlantic; and which the Phœnicians were accustomed to reach in thirty days. It is, perhaps, a further prop to our conjecture, that the history does not say that Sataspes' people of diminutive appearance were black; that therefore it is to be presumed they were not so; that, therefore, he must have passed the latitudes of all the coasts of Nigritia, or of Central Africa; and that thus he was brought to those, either of the diverse Caffre nations, who are tall, or to those of the Hottentots, who are actually diminutive; while, that the black complexion of the diminutive people would have been taken notice of, had it existed, is what we ought to expect, because, in a previous instance, where Herodotus has had to give a report of another African people of diminutive appearance, but situate inland, and in the north of Africa, their "black colour" is by no means overlooked.

Be the truth, however, of the report by Sataspes to Xerxes what it may, it carries upon its face all the features of even the most modern voyage to uncivilized shores; and, what is further, the features of the most honourable of those voyages, where (as in this Persian voyage) the civilized strangers have inflicted no injury upon the uncivilized natives. Sataspes and his people landed to procure provisions; the inhabitants fled

ing, that the population of Africa, upward from the Cape to the coasts of the Mediterranean, presents, successively, the several states of savage, pastoral and agricultural, barbarous, and what is

to the mountains; and Sataspes was able to assure Xerxes, (and knew that Xerxes would be pleased to hear,) that except taking the provisions which they needed, and in which the natives declined to deal with them, they were guilty of no act of violence upon all the coast.

As to the "red clothes" which Sataspes reported these diminutive people to wear (and of which, as the wearers fled precipitately to the mountains, he might obtain no particular view); could they (such as is the clothing of the Wild Hottentots of our own day) be the skins of beasts, the fur worn outward? If so, and if, in all respects, the wild Hottentots of the fifth century before Christ resembled the wild Hottentots of the nineteenth century after Christ, what a fair example have we not here, of the small impression which the lapse of ages can make upon the condition of any given people, where no extraordinary revolution occurs, to create the change! For the rest, if, upon the authority of this relation of the Greek historian, we could believe in the reality of a visit of Sataspes to the Hottentots, it would afford no inharmonious name in geography, and commemorate a remarkable event, if we were now to call the south-west coast of Africa Sataspia, and the Hottentots, Sataspians. It is true that, according to the accounts of the Phœnecian voyage, undertaken for Necho, king of Egypt, and commonly dated about B. C. 670, the whole of Africa had been rounded, and therefore the coasts of the Hottentots passed, two centuries before the voyage of Sataspes; but we know nothing of the fact that the Phœnecians communicated with any part of them, though memorials of their stay have sometimes been fancied as still subsisting at the Cape.

more commonly called civilized. The Bushmen are properly savage, because they subsist wholly upon the wild gifts of nature. The Black Caffres are savage, except that they keep folds of domesticated cattle, and plant fields or gardens. The Red Caffres are divided into such as are properly Caffres or heathens, and live after the manner of their Black brethren; and such as have joined the Mohammedan faith, and live in towns and villages. The Negro nations plant

We have elsewhere spoken of the origin of the Dutch terms Bush and Bushmen, (the latter signifying the Wild Hottentots); and, if that new example of French and Celtic derivatives in common use in English mouths, carries us back to a passing speculation in a preceding chapter (see page 137 of our first volume), it may be allowed to enlarge a little even the present remark, and add a testimony more to the wide dissemination of the Celtic dialects, and the light which an acquaintance with them is able to throw, both upon geographical names, and other truths, and upon the geographical history of the Celtic tribes or nations. It is not the Wild Hottentots alone, that have ever been distinguished nationally by the name of *Wood* or *Bushman*; because in Spain, the names of Basque, Biscayan, Biscay, and its Bay, have all the same original. *Basque*, the people and the country, implies a people and a country of woods and forests—*boschs*, *bosjes*, *bois*, and *bosquets*; and the English *bosky*, “bushy;” whence Biscay, Biscaya, in the same manner as, in contrast, the country adjacent to Biscay is called Navarre:—that is, an open, champaign, plain, or level country; from the same Celtic root as that which gives to the French their *niveau*, “level.”

fields, build cities, and practise a variety of arts; but they are without the use of letters, and are so disfigured with hideous customs, (along with many which are of good report,) that their state is to be called barbarism, and themselves barbarians. The Moors, or Western Arabs, upon the other hand, (though, in numerous respects, less estimable than any of the foregoing,) have the use of letters, and fulfil, altogether, the claims to the title of a civilized people.

The Black Caffres are gentle or rugged according to the occasion; but this admission does not vindicate them from the charge of savageness. It is not how soft and amiably a people can behave when they are pleased, or when they are not offended nor excited, that stamps them as civilized, or as morally estimable; for those things are natural to the human character, and need no cultivation, and confer no distinction. But the test of the cultivated man is, his moderation in resentment, his forbearance toward his enemies, his mildness even in his anger, his incapability of cruelty;—the length, in short, to which he can go, or beyond which he will not go, under circumstances the most adapted to bring into action the violence of his temper. The command of temper,—this is breeding;

and breeding is civilization. If there are persons who think to compound, by their suavity when pleased, for their brutality when offended; such persons grievously mistake, both what their neighbours may fairly ask of them, and what is their own rank in civilization and in nature. The savage, as we have said, is every thing of this; and so are wolves and tigers. But the natural man, exposed, in his natural state, to many foes, to many difficulties, and to many dangers, threatening incessantly even his life, is prone to indulge in all that ruggedness and fierceness with which he is endued for his defence. Yet, even in him, these qualities may take the shape of vices, and are always to be kept in check. The great business of improvement of human character, both in civil and in savage life, is the restraint of its ferocity, and the increase of its sweetness. A North American Indian, being asked what, among the Indians, was considered as distinguishing a “good man,” could never be gotten beyond the test of *mildness*. “What sort of a man,” said the inquirer, “do you call a good one?”—“He,” answered the Indian, “that is *mild* to his friends.”—“But what would you have him beside?”—“He should be *mild*,” returned the Indian, “to his wife and

children.”—“Well, but what would make him more remarkably good?”—“He must be *mild* when he is drunk.”—“And nothing else?”—“Why, he should be *mild* to his enemies.” But, if all this is attainable in savage life, it is still more so in civil, in proportion to the height of civilization. Civilization relieves men from many dangers and provocations; and, because it softens the road of life, so it should soften manners:—

“Ars emollit mores.”

But civilization is comparative; and, in the midst of the highest civilization, individuals enjoy its advantages only in comparative degrees. In the most polished cities, there are thousands who lead hard lives, and are exposed to have their tempers soured and inflamed. But this misfortune, where it demands excuse, is the result of poverty, or of what is called a low condition; and thus it is, that a mildness of character and manners comes to be essential to gentility, and even to bear the name of *gentleness*; for gentleness is nothing, as to the meaning of the word, but that character of mind which, by their very station, is usually found, and therefore strictly expected, in persons literally of *birth*;—that is, born of wealthy families—superior in condition;

while to the opposite character, for the corresponding reason, belongs the name of vulgar. All the descriptions of men's behaviour are drawn from words signifying, in the original, a certain station of life; and the justice of the terms consists in this, that in reality, there is a certain description of behaviour, good or bad, characteristic of the *majority* of those filling the station; and it is no answer, that in all those stations, there are individuals who, for better or for worse, do not act according to the nominal and real standard of their station. As to individuals, if they act below the average character of their station, so much the greater is the dishonour to themselves; if better, their own is the entire praise! But so it is, that when we speak of *rude, rustic, boorish, clownish, churlish*; we mean, literally, the manners common to the country labourer or cultivator of the earth, living on wolds and wilds, straitened perhaps by poverty, a stranger to, or only distant beholder of the social arts, and without the opportunity of softening his manners by an enlarged intercourse of any kind, and, least of all, by an intercourse with the generous and polite. It is the same, too, when we talk of *urbanity*, which means the manners of towns; of *politeness*, which means the

manners of cities ; of *courteousness*, which means the manners of courts ; and so, also, when we talk of *generosity*, which, like *gentility*, in its original and literal sense, means the virtues usual and to be expected in persons of birth, or of good or high breeding or condition. But these are truths which ought to impress us with the most valuable moral lessons ; first, as they condemn, and stain with shame, and impeach the title of those who enjoy the advantages of life without exhibiting its fruits ; secondly, as, more or less, they excuse those, who, labouring under the disadvantages, and confessing their low breeding and condition, betray also the effects ; and thirdly, as they magnify the lustre of those others, (and they are thousands,) who, in spite of the denials which might plead for their deficiencies, have yet, from a variety of sources—their observation—their good taste—the natural goodness of their disposition—and perhaps a virtuous and really polished, though humble *birth* and *breeding*, shown forth the very qualities which society requires rigorously only of their superiors in social life. To such, indeed, (whether we speak of manners or of conduct,) as warm an eulogium is always to be given, as, with respect to those who disgrace their oppor-

tunities, the warmest condemnation; and it is in this way that speaks the poet:—

“What can exceed the merit of the great?
Nothing—but merit in a low estate;”

because, in a low estate, it is the most hard to be attained.

But, as the civil state exhibits all the several degrees of human character or temper which we either cite or allude to; so, the savage state supplies a term for human failings below the lowest of those of civil life, the word *savage* literally meaning (and in the French tongue uniformly) nothing more than wild, untamed, uncivilized, uncultivated, so that even a wild rose is a “rose sauvage”—though with us, it implies the ferocious; and it is this liableness to the charge of ferocity that constitutes the Caffre a savage, whatever the amenities that, at another moment, may mark his haracter. “The Caffres are not cruel,” says a traveller, who yet, with the same pen, relates very cruel acts performed by Caffres toward those with whom they are in enmity; but their real variety of demeanour is to be discerned in such sketches as those that follow: “I have watched,” says the traveller referred to, “a group of Caffres, as they stood round me, in easy

graceful attitudes, and wondered that they could ever be savage; when the discourse turned suddenly on war, and a Caffre was asked to show their manner of attacking an enemy. The expression, in a moment, changed; his eye assumed a vindictive glare, his lip the stern curve of vengeance; and, throwing from him his carosse, and grasping the assagay firmly in his right hand, he bounded impetuously forward; crouched, as if to avoid the weapon of his foe; and then, again, rushed on, with every muscle of his fine form clearly developed, and when his time had arrived, brandishing his weapon, he raised it to a horizontal position, gave it a quivering motion ere it left his hand, and sent it whizzing through the air." And again:—"In these vast boundless tracts, there are no associations connected with the past, mankind is in its infancy; but there is nothing in their simple manners to offend. The savage is never vulgar; his armed figure, encircled by his dogs; his graceful and free-born motions when in pursuit of game; his frank manner, and bold approach, on perceiving the white stranger who is traversing his country,—are all noble, and in keeping with the surrounding region—

“Untouched as yet by any meaner hand
Than His who made it.”

We have the same authority, nevertheless, and many others, for several more of the mixed traits, sometimes exalting, and sometimes greatly moderating, our views of Caffre life¹.

¹ The national character, not less than national appearance, of the Caffres and Hottentots, (civilized or savage,) differs, under certain aspects, exceedingly. The Caffres, who, as we have seen, are a pastoral people, and who, therefore, in their cattle, possess and pursue the accumulation of *property*, are prudent in its management; can even be dishonest in its acquisition; and probably temper, more or less, the impulses of generosity in its regard, by habits of avarice, and of regard to self. The Hottentots, who (what, at present, seems almost difficult to believe) are said to have been, at the first settlement, an assemblage of pastoral communities as well, are now (the Bushmen, or wild or savage Hottentots, at least) wholly without *property*, and subsisting only upon the free gifts of nature. But, whether from this, or from any other source of national peculiarity, all travellers concur in attributing to the Hottentots (even in the civilized state) that thoughtlessness as to self upon the one hand, and that generosity as to others upon the opposite, which so usually marks the human character, where men are at once in possession of the present means to give, and without the habit of making provision for the future.

Travellers, too, are as unanimous upon the personal beauty and general exterior of the Caffres, as upon the degree of contrast to those features in the Hottentots. "We were much struck," says one of the latest, "with the easy and noble carriage of the Kaffre-men. . . . The Kaffres are elegantly formed, and are so exceedingly graceful in their general demeanour, that they appear to be a nation of gentlemen. In manners they are respectful without servility, and possess a native delicacy which prevents them from giving offence by

Such, then, were the new people into whose hands Charles was now delivered. He came

word or action. There is no perceptible difference to be observed in their manners, from the chief to the poorest of the tribe. Property, in fact, is much more equally divided among the Kaffres, than in [*higher*] civilized societies. (See our remarks, in an early chapter, above, upon the inevitable tendency of all exceeding national wealth to impoverish, comparatively, the greater part of the people.) "This" [equal distribution] continues our author, "constitutes the happiness of the infant state of society; and if we may judge by the free and cheerful manners which characterize the Kaffres, we may conclude that they are a happy people." . . . "As soon," says he, "in another place, "as we entered the Kaffre territory, a new and enlivening scene awaited us. Every Kaffre we met on our way came up to us in the most frank and easy manner, and shook us by the hand; yet without the slightest appearance of vulgar confidence or forwardness. They evidently showed, by their demeanour, which was at once graceful and modest, that they considered us their superiors; but that they felt, at the same time, they were freemen, and entitled to address us on terms of equality."—Moodie's *Ten Years in South Africa, &c.* London. 1835.

A critic upon Lieut. Moodie's work, (evidently enjoying a personal acquaintance with the subjects of his criticisms, and adding the orthography of an eastern scholar,) remarks upon these passages: "The Kafirs are as remarkable for their strong common sense, as for their corporeal symmetry. In their negotiations with the Colonial Government, their chiefs, and the Governor of the Cape Colony, have sometimes apparently changed places in the scale of civilization—the former being the enlightened, the latter the barbarian party. The Kafir chiefs repeatedly urged to the late Governor the cruelty and im-

among them in amid events the least adapted to give him confidence in his safety and kind

policy of the Commendo system; they urged the injustice and barbarity of retaliating upon a community the crimes of individuals—they offered to pay double for the cattle stolen by their people; but this equitable offer was rejected, and that disgraceful system of reciprocal pillage was adopted, which [anno 1835] has plunged the colony into its present calamities.”—*Athenæum*, No. 391.

Leaving, at this place, the Caffres, and still quoting our present author, among many, only because he is the most recent; and quoting, here, as in former instances, only for the sake of creating in our readers the greater confidence in the truth of the slight national sketches embodied in our text, and even in our notes; we turn, now, to some of the traits afforded by him of the Hottentots, as well as of the Dutch colonists; for we think that few of our readers will have seen what has just now appeared, without concurring with us in the thought, that in the Caffres of the Cape, we actually behold the living representatives of Herodotus’s Macrobian Ethiopians. (We allude, in an especial manner, to the historian’s account of the reception given by the latter to the ambassadors of Cambyzes.) But, to talk, here, of the Hottentots, and of the Cape-Dutchmen: “The poor Hottentots,” says Lieut. Moodie, “were treated by the ignorant [Dutch] colonists as a people incapable of improvement.” . . . “The Hottentots are possessed of acute, though not very powerful or durable feelings. Their character is one of singular weakness, joined to the most lively perceptions, and observation of external things. They have not a little cunning when their suspicions are excited; but they are habitually *honest*, sincere, and confiding, and will rather *steal* than *cheat*. They are quick in noting peculiarities of character or manner. . . . The [civilized] Hottentots are ge-

treatment under their power, and least promising as to the final accomplishment of all his dearest

nerous in the extreme to their friends and acquaintances, and can refuse them a share of nothing they possess. This is one cause of their general poverty, and that so few of them acquire any considerable property of any kind. . . . A Cape-Dutchman's sympathies are confined to his own family. He knows not the feeling of friendship beyond the circle of his immediate relatives. But the Hottentots are like one large family, bound together by common injuries, common feelings, and common interest. This union constitutes their happiness; and of this comfort tyranny cannot deprive them. *Theft is very uncommon among them*, and they may safely be entrusted with anything but intoxicating liquors. . . . The most amiable trait in the character of these people is their sincerity. It is a well-known fact, that a Hottentot, when he is examined before a court of justice, generally tells the whole truth without disguise, though he is certain that his own conviction and punishment will follow his confession. So often have I observed this noble trait of character, that I would at any time attach more credit to the *assertion* of a Hottentot, regarding any simple matter of fact, than to the *oath* of one of the lower classes in the colony, when they have any object to serve by deception. I now come to the vices of the Hottentots. Though incapable of lasting resentment, they are passionate, savage, and cruel, to their women and children, on the slightest provocation. The men hardly ever come to blows in their quarrels. . . . These shocking scenes are generally occasioned by drinking. . . . There is, however, nothing rude in the manner of the Hottentots on ordinary occasions: they are extremely affectionate, and are very delicate in avoiding causes of offence, never contradicting or interrupting each other in conversation, unless they are excited by violent passions. Their conversation (the

wishes. They had destroyed or scattered, like so many beasts of the forest, or like a burrow of

author is still speaking of the civilized Hottentots, and not of the Bushmen,) is at the same time coarse and unrefined, though less so than that of the Cape-Dutch;" to which latter observation the author adds, at the commencement of a long note,—“Of all the people I have ever seen, the Cape-Dutch are the coarsest and least polished in their manners. The conversation of both sexes,” &c. &c. These are the softest words of Lieut. Moodie, that we can find, respecting the Cape Dutch; and yet it is with reference to quite another class (a semi-native one) of the Cape population, that his critic, before quoted, uses the subjoined emphatic, and apparently pointed phraseology: “*In one passage, (and one alone,) relating to a very important class of the South African population, we find our author guilty of an undue harshness of expression!*”—Yet hear how (among things of more severity) he goes on: “The moment a Dutch woman enters the conjugal state, she takes her seat by a little table in the hall, from which she never stirs, if she can help it; and they often laugh at the folly of the English women, in going about the house to attend to their domestic concerns, when they might have every thing done by calling to their servants, without quitting their places. When the Dutch ladies marry, they become exceedingly torpid and phlegmatic in their manners and habits, dirty and slovenly in their dress. . . . Like the men, they gradually, at an early age, grow to an unwieldy size.”—“In addition to their (the Cape-Dutchmen’s) extreme ignorance on all subjects unconnected with their peculiar mode of life, the Dutch colonists entertain rather extravagant notions of the privileges of Christians; and are in general firmly persuaded, that all who have been sprinkled with a little water, go to heaven, when they die, as a matter of course. One thing, however, puzzles them sadly,

field-vermin, the hospitable people with whom he had so long dwelt, and upon the speedy and

(how the baptized Hottentots and slaves are to be disposed of after death;) for they think it quite impossible that an order of beings whom they are accustomed to regard with such contempt, should be placed on an equality with themselves." Then, returning to the Hottentots, he adds: "Some of the features of these do not, certainly, agree with the commonly received ideas of beauty; but they have expressive eyes, and a liveliness and grace of carriage . . . that lightness and ease in their motions for which all savages are remarkable. . . . The true Hottentots are a small and slight race, with acute senses, and lively irritable tempers."

The Griquas, or "people with shoes," who occupy the whole north-eastern frontiers of the colony, beyond the Orange River, form that part of the Cape population to which we have just above alluded, as pronounced by the critic the only subject of "undue harshness of expression" with Lieut. Moodie; and what the critic adds upon this latest history, will at the same time help to show even the intellectual abilities of the savage or wild Hottentots, or Bushmen, were their position more propitious: "The Griquas, . . . though bold and resolute, are easily governed; and Waterboer, the chief of their nation, is a diminutive Bushman of the lowest caste, who commands their respect by his natural abilities. [These people are of a class which, according to Lieut. Moodie, assume airs of decided superiority over the "true" but *civilized* Hottentots, wherever they live among them.] The Griquas are not dependent on the colony, but their importance, as a barrier against the wilder natives of the interior, has led to a close alliance with them;" and "it was agreed, in December last, that Waterboer and the Governor of the Cape Colony shall for the future communicate directly

peaceable removal of whose craal, all his hopes had so long rested, and had recently been so eagerly raised, for his final journey to Martha Hoyland's, and for his final restoration to his

with one another; and that the former shall receive annually from the British 100*l.* and two hundred musquets for the defence of the frontier."

Mr. Barrow tells us that the name *Hottentot* is a fabrication of which he was able to trace neither the original nor the meaning. He adds, "that when, at the first discovery of the country, the Hottentots were spread over the whole of the south-east of this extremity of Africa, as an independent people, each horde had its particular name; but that the name by which the collective body, as a nation, was distinguished, and which, at this moment, they bear among themselves, in every part of the country, is Quaiquaë."

This author, writing forty years ago, bears the same testimony to the moral and intellectual character, and redeeming points of personal comeliness, among the Hottentots or Quaiquaës, (the Umlaoes of the Caffres,) as that which, since the date of his work, (that of the beginning of English acquaintance and dominion at the Cape,) has been repeated by every English visitant. It is highly honourable to Mr. Barrow, also, and to English sentiment and letters, that no time was lost in proclaiming the sufferings and oppression to which the Hottentots had then, without mitigation, been so long exposed; and that if, under the English dominion, "happily for this much injured race, a new order of things has, within these few years, dawned upon the colony," neither the first moment of that English dominion, nor the work of its first English historian, appeared without the exposure of their existing misery, and the demand for its relief.

mother and his home ; they had trodden down the frail but hospitable cabin in which he had so long lodged and fed, and in which dwelt old Carree, and his old wife ; they had driven from him, like a hare before the hounds, and in their teeth, and perhaps slaughtered, the affectionate though ugly little girl, that had raised him when fallen, fed him when famished, led him when a cripple, clothed him when naked, healed when he was wounded ; and who had now, for thus long a time, been his companion, his nurse, his play-fellow,—the guardian spirit that was still to lead him, and to bring him to his goal : and they had done all this in the midst of rage and of violence, of fire, of shrieks, and blows, and the pouring forth of blood ! Yet, as to himself, their first act was an act of forbearance ; their second, one of positive benevolence, and concern for his preservation ; and the entire rest, the most unequivocal tokens of desire for his welfare ! It perplexed him to reconcile all this : that he should see men at once so wicked and so good ; so barbarous upon one side ; so tender upon another ! He did not understand that each of these things was compatible in the same men ; that the same men may be kind to some, and cruel to others ; kind upon one occasion, and cruel upon another ; and all this, either with or

without some show of reason more or less complete ! He did not take into account the evil done upon provocation real or imaginary, and either sufficient or insufficient ; nor the fixed animosities against particular persons or bodies of men, founded, rightly or wrongly, upon past experience. He scarcely comprehended that the same men, who, with justice, might be hateful to each other, might have each their share of the best qualities in themselves ; and that, while they seemed but monsters in their relations with some of their fellow creatures, yet they might have human virtues in a general aspect, and claim to be beloved and pardonable children of the Divinity, all together ; while, more or less, they were bad, or turbulent, or wrangling brothers, in the great family of mankind ! He had already seen the prejudices of the English against the Dutch, of the Dutch against the English, of the Dutch against the Bushmen, of the Bushmen against the Dutch, and of the Bushmen, the Caffres, and the Dutch, alternately and respectively ; and that there might be grounds for more or less justification of all these prejudices, and of the acts to which they gave birth. At the same time, he had thus far seen, and felt, and intimately experienced, that all these several denominations of men had their

virtues as well as their vices; their amiable features and situations, along with their odious; and in an especial manner he had seen, felt, and experienced, that all of them could be kind and tender toward himself. Here, then, were the arguments, even at this time, for the allaying of his fears, for the softening of his indignation, and for the moderating of his grief; and here, in spite of all that he had this morning seen and undergone, were the truths which taught him, that now, no more than hitherto, was he in the gripe of monsters, not the arms of men; that the enemies of the Bushmen might still be the foster-fathers of an English child; that human sensibilities might have their turn in the bosoms of Caffre warriors; that those warriors might yet lead him to Caffre homes of peace and gentleness and joy, and yet befriend him in Africa, and bring him to Martha Hoyland, and restore him to his mother; and that from all these particulars, it became no moral inconsistency, if he was yet to see these Caffres, and these Caffre homes, even after the morning's work which had now past, reposing amid the blessings of maternal nature, and enjoying, in common with all the other things upon the earth, the bounties of the sunshine and the rain!

CHAPTER XXIX.

O'er the brown Karroo, where the bleating cry
Of the Springbok's fawn sounds plaintively ;
Where the Zebra wantonly tosses his mane,
As he scours, with his troop, o'er the desolate plain ;
And the timorous Quagha's whistling neigh
Is heard, by the fountain, at fall of day ;
And the fleet-footed Ostrich, over the waste,
Speeds like a horseman who travels in haste ;
Hieing away to the home of her rest,
Where she and her mate have scooped their nest.

PRINGLE.

BUT we must pass swiftly, and almost in entire silence, over all that should belong to Charles's stay among the Caffres, and even over many succeeding incidents, which now filled up a long and tedious interval of time. Many circumstances of interest, and many minor adventures, would have adorned, in their relation, the pages occupied with this part of the history ; but the size of our book has necessarily a limit, and there lie before us so great a variety of details,

more immediately forming the links which compose the chain of our discourse, that we sacrifice (though with reluctance) any more particular account, than that which we shall here briefly give, of scenes, and crossings, and disappointments, and long and multiplied delays, under which, at this time, Charles incessantly laboured and grieved; and all terminating in submission to a single resource, (that of turning backward, through the colony, to Cape Town,) as the only prospect afforded him of finally reaching Martha Hoyland's, and of hearing of his mother!

The Caffres carried him, indeed, to the eastward; but it was to the south-eastward, and not to the north-east; and the track (when, at length, it brought them near any of the European settlements) brought him only to the poor and scattered farms of some of the rudest of the boors, fixed upon the sea-coast of that quarter of the colony; whose poverty, individually and among all around, had this among other inconveniences, that it narrowed their communications upon every side, and was therefore an obstacle in the way of even their best inclinations to assist the orphan, in what, from his Caffre interpreters, (some of whom had a little both of Dutch and English,) they understood to be his aim, and were at least not unwilling to promote.

It was at least a month after Charles's violent separation from even the survivors of the Bushmen, before his heart was once more lightened by the view of anything that bore the likeness of a chance of arrival among settlements. For many days succeeding to that frightful morning which brought with it the destruction of the craal, and the slaughter, or, at the best, the flight and loss of the friends he then enjoyed, and by whom he had expected to be carried to some farm, whence, by further aid, he hoped to see his godmother; for many days succeeding to this, though abundantly well-treated by the Caffres, he continued in the situation which we have described as to the first moments; that is, he was full of fears, or at least he stood in awe, of his new companions, upon the one side; and upon the other, while their language had no resemblance to that of the Bushmen, (with which, in some very small degree, he had become acquainted,) he indulged no hope that they would understand his own any better than it had been understood among the Bushmen.

This denial of the benefits of speech was a good deal his actual situation among the Caffres by whom he had been first taken; but when, as speedily happened, these had returned to their own craal, and he became surrounded by larger

numbers of that people, he was soon accosted by several who could speak a reasonable share of English. Many traversed, at a certain season of each year, the wide *carroos*, or tracts of barren sands, to traffic with the English settlers, and several were acquainted at some of the missionary-stations; and among most of these he could find such as had ample knowledge of his parent tongue, for understanding all his story about his shipwreck, his progress into the interior, his desire to reach the English settlements and the farm of Martha Hoyland's husband; his disappointment of the promised partial help of the Bushmen, through the Caffre treatment of the *craal*; and his repinings at the ceaseless interruptions to his meeting with his mother, and even to the hearing of her name!

The story won him the pity of the Caffres, and was answered with promises of their own assistance to his objects. But the seat of the Caffre *craal* was far out of Graham's Town and of all the English districts; and even far from the line of the great road which led eastward to them from Cape Town, through the neighbourhood of Blouwveldt's. In deviating, though so little as the small feet of Charles could at the utmost carry him, when he wandered from the

great stone at which Zephyr had placed him, he took, at least, the direction opposite to that of the public road; and when he descended into the adjacent hollow, when he turned right and left, first after the bird, and next after the antelope; and when, more than all, he crossed and recrossed the river, moved along the windings of its banks, ascended the high grounds to avoid its marshes, pursued the proffered openings in the woods, was led as the Honey-birds called him, advanced from the woody covers toward the edge of the ravine, and finally wound along its side, and to its bottom, and into the watered lands beyond it; first his hand held by the Bushman-girl, and next his limbs laid upon the Bushmen's hospitable litter; when all this had happened, (as our readers have seen it happen,) and happened, step after step, still further, and in a more opposite direction to the line of the eastern road; and when, at last, he was torn from the Bushmen's valley, and transported to the lowing craals and verdant pastures of the Caffre husbandmen; then, not only the direction in which he lay was quite a new one, but his distance from where he ought to have been, a distance not to be measured by single miles, but by hundreds. The Caffres, like the Bushmen, projected, as all that they

could the speediest do, to lead or send him, by the first opportunity, not to an English settlement, but to some Africaner farm; and, as even this could not be instantly accomplished, the best of Charles's present lot consisted in the good things of the *craal*; whether, as part of these, we reckon the abundance of its milk and honey and rich fruits, and fish, and fowl, and beef and venison; or the friendly demeanour of the men; or the tears and kisses of the women, when he cried after Martha Hoyland and his mother; or his adventures with the hunting-parties, his escapes among the rocks, his share in tracking and killing a leopard, his investiture with a *carosse* of its shining spotted coat; (his hair and skin, at the same time, being properly ornamented with red clay;) his gambols, and songs, and dances, with the merry and black-eyed children; his admission even to the evening ring, among the taller girls and boys; or his acquisition of a Caffre bow and arrow, and little Caffre assagay, and ivory armlets; and his success in often spearing a fish, or bringing down, from a tree, or out of the air, the bird upon which, an hour after, he made a hunter's dinner!

The Caffres were as eloquent in their harangues, as lively and dramatic in their story-telling, and as passionately fond of stories, as

Charles's former friends, the Bushmen; neither were they behind-hand with these last in the multitude of their songs, or in their ear or their capacities for music¹. Often their music, and the words which they sung to it, were religious, both in design and character; and as the Caffres, like the Hottentots, readily catch, and imitate, either immediately from the white men, or from Caffre after Caffre, as well the tunes, and words, and practices which other Caffres have derived from those white men; so, among other instances, Charles, during his abode in the craal, heard a Caffre hymn which had first been composed and sung at a far-distant missionary-station. The words were a Caffre composition, and they were sung to Caffre music, very grateful to the ear. We subjoin them in the original, as well as in a translation; the first, in order to indulge the reader with some example of the Caffre language. The four first words of each stanza were given by a single bass voice; after which, all present, male and female, joined in the remainder.

¹ A German officer happening to play an air of Gluck's, in the presence of some Hottentot women, observed that it was listened to with the deepest attention, and that some of the women were even affected by it to tears. In a day or two afterward, he heard his favourite melody, *with accompaniments*, all over the country, wherever his wanderings led him.

A CAFFRE HYMN.

Ulin guba inhulu siambata tina,
 Ulodali bom' uadali pezula ;
 Umdala uadala idala izula,
 Yebinza inquis zixeliela :
 Utica umcula gozezulinè,
 Yebinza inquis noziliméle,
 Umze uaconana subsiziele,
 Umcokeli na sicokeli tina,
 Uenze infaäna zenza ga borni !

Imali incula subsiziele,
 Wena, wena q'aba inyaniza,
 Wena, wena caca linyaniza,
 Wena, wena elati linyaniza :
 Ulodali bom' uadali pezula,
 Umdala uadala idala izule !

TRANSLATION.

He, the mantle that covers us,
 The Giver of life, ancient on high ;
 He, the Creator of the heaven,
 And of the ever-burning stars :
 God is mighty in the heaven,
 And moves the stars around it :
 We call upon God in his dwelling-place,
 That he may lead us by his power ;
 For it is he that giveth light to the world !

He is alone, the only giver of good ;
 He is alone, the only sure defence ;
 He is alone, the only trusty shield ;
 He is alone, the only tree of refuge :

He, the giver of life, ancient on high ;
He, the creator of the heaven ¹ !

¹ The reader will observe, in this Caffre hymn, the occurrence of two images, which, as they are derived from Caffre life, at once stamp its authenticity ; and remind us of the fidelity of transcript in certain instances, and of originality of thought in others, (and both from their direct derivation from realities,) which so often distinguish, by their presence, all the works of primitive generations, and by their absence, all the works of a higher civilization. We have lately met with a remark upon the newly-studied paintings of the Egyptian sepulchres, in which the painters of those works are said to have worked with a *Chinese* fidelity and minuteness of imitation of the objects which they had undertaken to represent. But the same fidelity—the same direct resort to realities—and the same minute precision of copy—were long since forced upon our own attention by paintings and carvings of American Indians, not more rude than *some* of the Egyptian ; and here, as there, whatever may be the deficiencies, as pictures, or as sculptures, at least it is impossible to mistake the object designed to be shown, or to accuse the artist of departure from graphic and characteristic truth. But the same thing happens with speech and books ; and, here, too, the ruder, the more primitive, the mind which dictates, the more commonly are realities consulted ; and the less danger have we of finding, either the absence of natural and appropriate images, or the presence, through a servile imitation, of such as are inappropriate and common-place. In this Caffre hymn, God, under the image of a *carosse*, or mantle, is first called the shelter, the covering, the comfort of humanity. Further on, he is called the “*tree—the only certain tree of refuge ;*” because a *tree* is the ordinary refuge of a Caffre, whether from the rays of the sun, or from a beast of prey, or from the arrows or the assagays of a foe !

It was different with the Hebrews, among the rocky fastnesses of Judea. Rocks were the refuges in Judea, whether the simply

Other circumstances were less agreeable. He found, in various things, the Caffres as foul in their manner of living as the Bushmen. He found them at least as superstitious. If the Bushmen had their sacred *fly*¹, the

natural resources that they offered, or as to their being further strengthened with walls, and towers, and military engines of defence and offence. But it happened, from this cause, that the divine protection suggested a different image, as a mode of expression, to the Hebrews, than to the Caffres. The former styled God, their “*rock of defence*.”

When, however, in a former reign, there occurred a severe national calamity in England, in the wreck of the fleet of Admiral Sir Cloudesly Shovel, upon the *rocks* of the coast of Cornwall, and when a form of public prayer and humiliation was ordered upon the event; what was done, (as is well known,) by our English scholars and divines, in the composition? Why, echoes of scriptural language, and oblivious to things, and to the face of nature, they addressed the Divinity, upon the national calamity of *shipwreck*, beseeching him to be “our *rock of defence*!”

¹ In reference to the Hottentot’s *fly*, or “Hottentot’s god,” which we have mentioned in a former note, (p. 241, of the second volume,) the remark made in another place, upon the sameness of terms under which insects and birds are often spoken of by all old writers, including those of England, admits of illustration from the English version of the eleventh chapter of the book of Leviticus, where, (verse the twentieth,) at first sight, it must very much surprise us to read—“All *fowls that creep*, going upon *all four*, shall be an abomination to you.”

It soon appears, however, not only from the next verse, but, from several following, that those *quadruped fowls* are insects—

Caffres had more than one sacred *bird*; and, with both, if those thing were sometimes their

“*flying* creeping things;”—a division of the class of general creeping things—reptiles—vermin.

But, again, the twentieth verse, for a moment seems, to raise up a new question. We ask ourselves *which* are the *insects* having *four legs*? The twenty-first and other verses, however, soon discover to us, that the expression, “going upon all four,” is not to be interpreted of “four legs,” but simply signifies, “creeping.” The locust is called “a *flying* creeping thing that goeth upon all four;” and yet the locust has *six* legs. A “thing that goeth upon all four,” therefore, is not, in this place, exclusively a quadruped, but any *creeping thing*; and falls under our present names of insect, reptile, vermin. But a “*flying* creeping thing,” or a flying thing that goes upon “all four,” is our “*winged* insect.” This is plain from what follows, concerning locusts, of which, as is there seen, not only they are eaten by the Bushmen, the Arabs, and so many others of the present day; but they are specially permitted to the Israelites:—“Yet these may ye eat, of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which *have legs above their feet*, to leap withal upon the earth. (Our northern species of locust, it will be remembered, is called, by ourselves, the ‘grasshopper,’ and by the French, the ‘sauterelle,’ or *leaper*.) Even these of them ye may eat: the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind. But all other flying creeping things, which *have four feet* [which *creep*, which go ‘upon all four,’] shall be an abomination unto you.”

The having “legs above their feet” is another remarkable expression; but one which is sufficiently intelligible. Leviticus objects to all creatures that in any manner *creep*—including even such as have *short legs*; for it does not confine itself to the *very short*, or none at all. It prohibits the weasel,

consolations, at others, they occasioned a thousand fears, and cares, and griefs. The Caffres,

and the ferret, and the mouse; as well as the mole, the cameleon, the lizard, and the snail: "And whatsoever goeth upon his paws, among all manner of beasts, *that go on all four*, those are unclean unto you." . . . "And every *creeping* thing that *creepeth* upon this earth, shall be an abomination: it shall not be eaten. Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever hath more feet, among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; them ye shall not eat, for they are an abomination." The Hebrew has it, (says the marginal note,) "that doth multiply feet;"—which is plainly better than "more feet," (that is, more than *four*,) words that again mislead us into thinking that "goeth upon all fours" implies going upon *four feet*, instead of its implying solely the particular act of *creeping*, or (by another term) of *crawling*. This verse excludes caterpillars, centipedes, and many other insects, reptiles, or vermin.

The same general rule, as to things creeping, appears, in the same chapter, as to fishes. "A fish" is described in Genesis (i. 20.) as "the *moving* (or *creeping*) creature that hath life [in the waters]"; and in Leviticus the distinction is made (similar to that in regard to "all fowls that *creep*") between the more and the less *active*, or less *creeping*, of these moving or creeping things of the waters: "Whatsoever hath no *fins* nor *scales* in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you."—Now, the fish that have "fins and scales" are true fishes; they really *swim*, or move, or creep; and (in contrast with other things that "move in the waters") they may be said to rank with those "*fowls* which creep," but which have yet "legs above their feet, to *leap* withal upon the earth."

It is observable that, as to fowls, in our modern usage of the name, the prohibitions concerning them are disposed of in the seven verses which precede the twentieth; as are those

nationally and individually, were at least as heavy sufferers as the Bushmen, from the belief

concerning *beasts* from the second verse to the eighth, and concerning *fishes* from the ninth to the twelfth; while, from the twenty-ninth to the forty-third, the text concerns "creeping things" in general: "This (says the forty-sixth verse) is the law (1.) of the *beasts*, (2.) of the *fowls*, and (3.) of every living creature that moveth in the waters, (the *fish*,) and (4.) of every creature that *creepeth* upon the earth;"—a passage in which we again see how entirely the name of "fowl" is made to apply as well to insects as to birds; that is, to all *flying things*, our *winged* insects inclusive: for the "fowls that creep" of the twentieth verse, are plainly the "*flying* creeping things" of the twenty-first; while all other creeping things, including many that we now call *insects*, are here, in general terms, styled the "*creeping* things of the earth," or *our* reptiles, worms, and vermin.

In sum, the name of *fowl* is of general meaning, or descriptive only of things that *fly*; and these are *flies*, or *winged insects*, as much as *birds*; and thus winged insects have been called *fowls*, no less than birds. After this, *bird* being synonymous with *fowl*, as to what we commonly call *fowls* or *birds*; so, *bird*, as well as *fowl*, has been used to signify, indifferently, either *bird* or *fly*. (See, again, the note at p. 241, vol. ii.) We enter into no explanation of the literal meaning of the name of *bird*, which would bring us round, by another road, to the same point. So arbitrary, and so purely conventional, and so necessarily such, are the names of these, as of all other things.

It may be remembered, here, too, how nearly, through the class of humming-birds, considered from the largest to the smallest, the kingdom of *birds* descends into that of *insects*; or, in reverse order, the kingdom of *insects* rises into that of *birds*. The smallest of the humming-birds is called, by the

in witchcraft, which, sometimes, indeed, only besotted them, but, at others, loaded them with miseries and crimes. As, in Europe, the Norwegian mariners and fishermen, and old pirates, looked upon their wizards and witches as *Wind-sellers*, or disposers of *winds*, for their assistance upon the ocean; so, the Caffre husbandmen and herdsmen, with the scorching sky and thirsty surface of South Africa, and amidst its successions of deadly droughts, conspicuously esteem the witches and wizards of their particular people as Rain-makers, or as persons by whose prayers and charms *rain* can be obtained, or be withheld from them; an infatuation, among others, which is often attended with distressful consequences, of many of which Charles was a witness, and even, (through those about him,) a partaker: troubles which contributed to make the time seem long, that he thus spent among this people. Under the roof that he here called his home, the Caffre's mother wore out her age in suffering from the bodily wounds and mutilations which had formerly being inflicted upon her through charges of witchcraft;—through pretences that, at one time she had caused a drought, so that the grass was burnt

French, the *oiseau-mouche*, or *fly-bird*; and it is shot with grains of sand, and not with lead.

upon the ground ; the corn, the melons, and the green herbs destroyed, and the cattle killed with heat and thirst, in the midst of the dry beds of brooks and rivers ;—and at another, that she had inflicted diseases upon the craal !

At length, however, a large party of Caffres, invited to a wedding at a distant craal, received him into their company, to carry him to a farm-house on the way, and commend him to the white men's aid. They faithfully performed their errand, and found the Boor to whom they introduced him not averse from letting him stay till some chance of forwarding him should offer ; nor the Vrouw reluctant to let her Hottentot broil an extra slice for him, at dinner-time, from the sheep's carcase which hung beneath the rafters, and against the wall, under her eye, in the single sitting-room of the family. Charles was even entertained at this farm for many weeks ; its owners were plain good people ; they ate and slept, and wished ill to nobody. Charles was very welcome to his bed and to his board ; and they reckoned upon getting him, some time, upon the road among the Englishers ; but, after a day or two, and for all the rest of his sojourn, they nearly forgot that he was in their house. The Boor was as much a fisherman as a farmer. The Vrouw kept her maidens to the spinning-wheel by the dim flame of a lamp

of fish-oil by night, as well as by the sunbeams in the daytime; the Boor knew almost more about a boat and a whale, than about a waggon and oxen; and the country, the cause and the counterpart of this life of its few inhabitants, showed more variety, and promised more fertility, upon the side of the sea than of the land. A furlong from the house, you could leave the naked surface of what was called the homefield, and descend, by a rocky staircase among the craggs, to the shelly sea-beach underneath.

Yet, upon a day, when Charles was paddling, with naked feet, upon the beach, running after the white and sunny waves as they retired, and running from them as they came back; splashing the water, and making figures on the sand; picking up shells, and looking after shrimps; the sound of the conch, by which he was accustomed to be called to dinner, came a little earlier than usual upon his ear; and, upon his arrival at the Vrouw's side, he found an uncle of the family, (Mynheer Jansen,) who had stopped to take a meal and a dram, on his journey homeward from a distant part. The unexpected visit of Mynheer Jansen, the direction of his dwelling, and his greater opportunities of communication, either by land or sea, had put it into the head of the whale-fisher, that an opportunity was here offered

for assisting Charles's progress; and the boy being thus brought into view, and the dinner served, he soon began to consult with his uncle upon the subject, and to try his disposition. Mynheer Jansen raised but few objections to the scheme; he could not promise any speedy success; almost like his nephew, he lived out of any direct track for travel, and had but few neighbours, and those poor; yet he would do what and when he could; and, as an earnest, he willingly placed Charles in his waggon, at his departure; the latter at once thanking his hosts for the favours received, and giving way to revived hopes, and long suspended feelings of joy, at the change of scene which he now obtained, and the prospects that it encouraged.

But Charles remained long at Mynheer Jansen's without an opportunity of progress. Some months even elapsed, and Charles's spirits sunk at the delay. Mynheer Jansen treated him neither ill nor well; that is, he was turned among the servants, and made useful about the farm; but then he wanted for no necessaries, and as he was now growing old enough, and strong enough, not to be idle, his being put to employment at Mynheer Jansen's was every way natural and proper, and even laid a beneficial foundation for what came afterward to be required of him, and what was most to his ultimate advan-

tage. Even now, none of his moments were more cheerful, or more free from despondence and repining, than those in which he looked after the cows and calves, and drove them home at evening, and assisted at the milking.

Mynheer Jansen often mentioned his case to the neighbours that fell in the way, but no means whatever seemed to discover themselves, of putting him upon the road to Martha Hoyland's, or to Graham's Town, or even to any part of the new English settlements. All were far away from Mynheer Jansen's district, and separated from it either by very circuitous and imperfect roads, or by trackless wilds, and by unfordable rivers; and, as to the sea-coast, (here, as well as at his nephew's,) it had no port, and was no place for navigation, but bounded by one range of shallow water, and (for a great proportion) of tremendous breakers.

What communication, in short, Mynheer Jansen and his neighbours enjoyed with any distant part of the colony, was by land, and with no place but Cape Town; and in this direction, at length, it was proposed, and means finally presented themselves, to forward Charles. He was already (it was true) far nearer, as the birds would fly, to Graham's Town, than to Cape Town; and it seemed hard, that after all his difficulties and travel, and time lost, he should be sent back

again to the very place from which he had been brought; and while Graham's Town and its vicinity was still the scene of all his objects and his longings. But impediments of the kind in question are not always rare in travelling; and Charles's return to Cape Town (though, to him, a roundabout road to Graham's Town!) was not without the promise of convenience. Mynheer Jansen had learned from him the attention which he had enjoyed at the Government House; he doubted not, therefore, that his return to Cape Town, after all his sufferings and obstructions, would be the signal for even increased zeal for his welfare; and he knew, that while Charles, in these circumstances, could hardly want for friends at the seat of Government, it was from that place that, even now, he could best and quickest be sent to Graham's Town, either by land or sea.

At the distance of only a hundred and fifty miles from Mynheer Jansen, lived Mynheer Van Hoogst, a boor rather more opulent than most of those around him, and who was known to be preparing his waggons, oxen, and servants, for a long-projected journey to Cape Town. Mynheer Van Hoogst, after hearing all Charles's history, and especially so much of it as was joined with that of the late Land-drost of Graaf-Reynet, whom he had called his friend, con-

sented to be his new guide and guardian; and, now, not more than two months were added to the time of expectation, before he was actually riding in one of Mynheer Van Hoogst's waggons, on the road to Cape Town! We are forbidden by the studied brevity of all this part of our narrative, to dwell upon Charles's obligations to the hospitable Mynheer Jansen and his nephew, not excluding their respective Vrouws, and sons, and daughters.

So large a part of the country through which he was now carried was wholly new to his eyes, and those eyes had now become so much more observant, and better informed, than on his previous journey; that flowers, beasts, and birds, as well as scenery and cultivation, chases, and travelling adventures of all kinds, would here enliven as well as fill a large number of our pages, did we permit ourselves to speak at all, of what, upon this long and slow progress, he saw or heard, or was exposed to, or engaged in. But, slow as was the advance of Mynheer Van Hoogst's waggons, we hurry, for our own share, along the road to Cape Town, scarcely permitting to the reader the leisure for taking a glimpse at the lofty mountains, the wide plains, the deep-embedded rivers, or the dark and glossy forest-trees, amid which he is passing; or to look where troops of

ostriches, or countless herds of antelopes, with their bleating fawns, are outrunning the wind over the wide expanses ; or where the mild and graceful cameleopard is browsing upon the lofty branches ! How vast, how motionless, how silent, in the meantime, and for the most part,—was all the solemn landscape ; solemn, though bright with sunshine, and though gay with ten thousand tints, in the sky, on the distant hills, and on the immediate ground which the waggons were crossing, and in the deep and measureless valleys and plains which lay between ! Here was a succession of the landscapes, to each of which the poet might have applied his impressive verses :—

“ What lonely magnificence stretches around !
Each sight how sublime, and how awful each sound !
All hushed and serene, as a region of dreams,
The mountains repose 'midst the roar of the streams ;
Their glens of black umbrage by cataracts riven,
And calm their blue tops in the beauty of heaven !”

Charles neglected nothing, upon the route, that could either bestow or promise present and even momentary enjoyment ; but every serious thought within, nevertheless, was given, all the way, to things absent, and things past and future. He thought of England, and the sea, and of his mother and of his father ; he thought of Graham's Town and Martha Hoyland ; and, as

he drew nearer and nearer to Cape Town, he fancied himself already at the Government House; he fancied his welcome from the Aide-de-Camp; and he repeated to himself the words of condolence and reassurance which Lady Pontefract would address to him. What had chiefly moderated, too, from the beginning, his reluctance at returning to Cape Town, instead of pressing forward in the direction of Martha Hoyland's, was the recollection, that Lady Pontefract had promised to write to Lady Willoughby; and that doubtless, by this time, her Excellency had received an answer, and could tell him all about his mother and his home!

A day's journey was still before him. The waggons, before another day-break, were to begin ascending the last ridge of hills which rise between the inner country and the Cape Flats. They would descend, before the next evening, the long pass of Hottentot-Holland's Kloof; they would hear the chatter of the baboons, at their evening council, among the craggs; they would see the summit of the Table Mountain; and wheel, with gladdened hearts, and even quickened pace, their creaking waggons into Cape Town! Would the arrival be early enough for Mynheer Van Hoogst to take him to the Government House that night; or must he

wait, after all, for that joyful event, till the succeeding morning?

By the side of a torrent, and where there was a spread of thick, and verdant, and sweet grass, the waggons *uitspanned* for the last night; and the travellers and their cattle took their supper and their repose. At sunrise they prepared to ascend the hills; and now their journey was well nigh finished. In a hollow of the remaining road, they found the train of another boor, proceeding, not like themselves, to Cape Town, but from Cape Town to the country; and halting, to take breath before the next ascent. The travellers exchanged civilities, and each inquired the news. Droughts and rains were what Mynheer Van Hoogst could give an account of to his fellow-colonist; while the latter talked of market-prices of wheat and beef, and of wet and dry goods, and Cape Town politics. He told Mynheer Van Hoogst, (what the latter had never heard before,) that it was now almost a year since Lord Pontefract, and his family and staff, had returned to Europe; and since a new Governor had filled his place.

“A new Governor!” cried Mynheer Van Hoogst; “why, what do you say to that, my little friend?”

“But is Lady Pontefract gone too?” interro-

gated Charles, panting for breath; "and is the Aide-de-Camp gone too?"

"All gone," answered the traveller from Cape Town; "all new people at the Government House."

And Charles hung down his head, and became dissolved in tears.

CHAPTER XXX.

—— To make
Humanity the minister of God to man.

ARMSTRONG.

It was with a heavy heart, that, after all which, in this manner, he had learned of the changes at the Government House, Charles, from the naked and steep sides of the mountains to the northward, beheld, at length, toward the close of a gorgeous day, the whitening buildings of Cape Town beginning to make themselves visible upon the sands beneath; with their patches of forest trees and other verdure, and with the calm waters of Table Bay, and the dark ocean to the southward in the distance, skirting and terminating the picture that, to him, was now devoid, both of living figure, and of every soothing shelter! The Government House had been his home in Cape Town; and, short as had been his

acquaintance with it, and with its inmates, he had thought of all (in the contrast with all that was unknown) as his familiar roof-tree, and his familiar friends ! He had promised himself a renewed sleep in the chamber which first received him after his shipwreck ; he had thought that he was going to Cape Town, to call, again, by name, upon Sukey, who had been his chamber-maid and nurse, and to tell her all the marvels that had marked his absence ; and even to chatter, too, and leap, and run, with the footman who had lifted him into Lady Pontefract's britscka, and carried some of the gifts with which he was laden at his departure, when, on that moonlight evening, he set out, from the Government-steps toward the Prinz Van Oranje, held by the hand by the kind-hearted Land-drost. He had fancied the smiles, and the gentle features, of the sparkling Aide-de-Camp, ready to shine upon him as brightly and as softly as at their former meeting ; and to encourage his confidence, and to form the link which harmonized his infancy and his sheepishness with the grandeurs of the drawing-room, and of the dining-table. With that assistance, he had thought he could venture to sidle, as before, toward the knee of his foster-parent, the Viscountess ; and, now, after his travels, and after his growth of at least three or four inches, even

to look in the face of the Noble Governor, in spite of his gravity and his years, his military conciseness of speech, and his red riband and glittering star. He had hoped to find at the Government House, even young Mynheer Van Dunderblouwer, and to hear answers to all the messages of love which he had dispatched by the friendly merchant, from those to Lady Pontefract, to those to Charley, the green monkey, in her ladyship's boudoir; and, least of all had he forgotten to anticipate an hour's survey of that green monkey, and the grief with which the story of his own Charley would be listened to, both by the Aide-de-Camp and by Lady Pontefract; with the very probable prospect, that the purse of the latter would be opened, to procure him a new green monkey, from the German naturalist's repository! These thoughts had soothed him, from the moment when he found his steps directed once more to Cape Town, as the tedious circuit by which alone he was to reach Graaf-Reynet, and the house and garden of Martha Hoyland, and to hear, from his godmother, of his mother Margaret, and of John and Martha; and these alone had lessened the weight of delay and disappointment which the hapless circuit so unsparingly inflicted; a circuit which (with all its troubles, and with many troubles that had gone

before it,) he had sometimes the additional pain of recollecting, he appeared to owe to the sole neglect of the instruction of the gay and honest Negro Zephyr, to remain at the great stone in the wood, till the latter had carried news of him to his fond Hottentot mammy, at the farm of the wicked Vrouw; and till some plan had been laid for him, between the Negro and the poultry-woman, for his momentary safety and concealment, and speedy forwarding to Graaf-Reynet! "Oh!" he would cry, at this recollection, "what a fault it was to be so giddy, and how much I have suffered for it, and am still suffering;" and, while he said this, or while he thought it before he said it, a shock ran through his bones, from head to foot, and made him feel, as well in body, as in mind, how guilty he had been, and how much his guilt had been the cause of his misfortunes! But the news of the recall of Lord Pontefract from the Cape Government, and of the sailing of his Lordship, with all his family and establishment, for Europe, in the frigate *Euryalus*, filled him with a distress so piercing, and of such amount, as made him forget his fault; at the same time that it banished every dream of consolation, and taught him to think of himself only as the victim of calamity. It was true that he thought he could still inquire for the coun-

ing-house of Messrs. M'Cormack, and that even the mate of the ill-fated Nautilus might have made a voyage to England and back, and be now in some ship in the harbour; but of all of these he knew so little, that he scarcely derived a single hope from the recollection of the name of either. As the waggon, therefore, with its locked hind-wheel, moved slowly down the heights, drawn by its long team of oxen, and sometimes jolting over a road-stone, or a sharp ledge of rock, laid bare by the vehement rains, and as it descended into the valley, and rolled across the Flats into the town, the tears ran down Charles's face, while, in desponding mood, he still hung his head, and occasionally beat, with a movement of vexation, the little twig in his hand, against the empty sack upon which he sat. "There will be nobody," said he, "to care for me in Cape Town; and nobody to send me to Martha Hoyland. Everybody will send me away from them, like these Dutch farmers that the Caffres carried me to; and I shall be starved; and I shall never see my dear mother, nor brother, nor sister, nor Martha Hoyland either! Who should think about me, here; now that the Lady and the Aide-de-Camp are gone; and how shall I so much as get my supper to-night, and my breakfast in the morning? It is not, here, as

in the woods, where there are roots and berries, and branches to make a covering with, and a fire; and where the Honey-birds would lead me the way to find a bees'-nest: for, here, the walls are all stone, and the roads are all gravel; and there are no Honey-birds, nor anything else to be my friend!" Alas! we know as little of the good that awaits us, as the evil; and our despair is often as senseless as our confidence.

The sun had reached the very line of the horizon, and had dropped beneath it with that rapidity which, as we have said, is one of the phenomena of these tropical regions, just before the first, and second, and third waggon of the Dutch farmer, announced, by the bells upon the oxen, their entrance into the town; and candles were already lighted when Charles, to his partial recomposure, beheld himself once more at the door of the Prinz Van Oranje, and beheld the same Dutch hostess, that, in the cool and sunny morning which commenced his journey eastward, had detained the waggons of the Land-drost, to look for his brown-paper parcel; now busy at the door, giving welcome to the new comers from the settlements. She took no particular notice, however, of himself, disguised as he was in the common country dress of a boor's child; except that, patting him on the head, she pushed

him forward, to follow "his daddy," as she said, into the common room, where a large fire, and glasses of Cape brandy, gave to the whole party a hospitable reception. From this, indeed, the elder travellers, for a time, speedily withdrew, to look after their cattle, and after the contents and stowage of their waggons; but in the meantime, Charles, wearied with his day's drive, and drawn to sleep by the cheerful blaze, lay upon the stone floor insensible, and relieved from sorrow; and with one arm round the neck of a new acquaintance, the great mastiff.

As the coffee was to be made, the collops fried, the cabbage boiled, and even the cakes to be baked, and swum in butter, at the same bounteous hearth, it was not long before the Hottentot servants and black slaves of the good hostess, became busy with the hand-irons, the logs, the *griddle*, the frying-pan, the kettle, and the chimney-hook, at this interesting part of the chamber; nor before, in the prosecution of their cheerful and duteous activity, the foot, though naked, of a bustling Negro-girl, trod upon one of those of the great mastiff, who, thereupon, with a shriek and a growl, sprung up from his place; and leaving Charles's arm to be disposed of as it might, withdrew him a foot and a half only from the spot, and casting himself down

again, under the protection of the long wooden settle, resumed his sleep. Charles, far from being aroused by so small an incident, unconsciously recovered his arm from the immediate position in which it was abandoned by the mastiff, and was placing it calmly upon his breast; when the Negro-girl, the frying-pan in her left hand, and perceiving, that though the dog had got out of her way, his sleeping companion still remained, snatched him up in her right arm, loudly vociferating, at the same time; "What de Teyfel, does dis child do here? Does he want to be burn? How am I to do my work, you young Teyfel, if you lie here, taking up all der room at der fire; you, and like you, der great dog? Oh! to be sure, you will like der collops, and der cabbage, and der butter, and der cakes; but how poor Negro-wench to get dem dings ready, if you take up all der fire? Den, Vrouw, she scold Negro-wench, and all along wid you, you young Teyfel!" So saying, she laid the drowsy youngster upon the settle, exactly over his late bedfellow the mastiff; and this with far more tenderness and care than her loud words, half earnest, and half jest might have given reason to suppose; while Charles, still clinging to sleep, only muttered, with a half cry, as she held him, for a moment, upon the settle; "I tell you, I

won't! I won't go to bed, till I have seen the green monkey!"—"You see green monkey!" returned the Negro-girl; "what for you see *green* monkey? You *white* monkey you-self! Go to sleep, you piccanini; and den you see, presently, collops and cabbage, and cakes, and butter; and have der coffee, and der sugar! Go sleep, white-monkey-piccanini!"

Charles was already fast asleep again, before the Negro-girl had yet ceased her tongue; and he slept even through the noise of the cookery, of the setting of the knives and plates, and of the assembling, seating, and loud talking of the guests. But the good Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk had scarcely seen the travellers fairly placed around the table, and with the smoking viands under their chins; when, missing the little boy whom she had beheld as one of the party, and instantly turning toward where he lay, she approached him, with the design of shaking him well awake, while yet there was time to secure his supper. Scarcely, however, with kindly violence, had she put her hands upon the slumberer, when she thought that she discovered, despite of the tan and freckles of his sun-burnt face, the same shipwrecked English orphan, whom, two years before, Lady Pontefract had cherished at the Government House, and the worthy

Land-drost had carried away in his waggon, to forward to his English friends at Algoa Bay! With warm expressions of a surprise not entirely unmixed with doubt, she called upon the company for explanation, and immediately heard the truth of the affair, as far as they had the means of telling it. Mynheer Van Hoogst, without abating in his efforts to fish for a head of cabbage then swimming in a tureen of sheep's-tail fat¹, and while still dipping a loaf of bread in the same liquor, yet communicated to the Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk, a very clear account of the short acquaintance which was all that he had had with the child, and of its bringing to a farmer's door by a party of Caffres, who described their finding it in a craal of Bushmen; and, how, between the child's broken Dutch, and his own small smattering of English, he had even learned a portion of its previous history: a history from which, with the help of his Vrouw, he had judged it the most advantageous course for the child, to send

¹ The sheep bred at the Cape is lean, with the exception of its tail; and the lean part of the flesh is dry. The tail is of extraordinary length and solidity; and what is called the fat, is a substance between fat and marrow. With reference to the north of Africa, so ancient a writer as Herodotus, has occasion to mention somewhat of the same description of sheep, and of its fat tail.

it, at the earliest opportunity, to Cape Town. He knew that the boy was bent upon travelling in the opposite direction, and was anxious to find one Martha Hoyland, the friend of his mother, and his own gossip or godmother; but there were neither roads nor travelling between Algoa Bay and the farm of Mynheer Hoogst; so that the long circuit, back again through Cape Town, was the shortest, or at any rate, the most practicable, line of march that was left open to the child; besides which, Mynheer Hoogst and his household had understood enough of all that Charles had recounted to them of his adventures at the Government House, to think that he would be again befriended there, as soon as he should reach it. They had left their remote district, however, and even reached the seat of Government, with too imperfect a knowledge of Colonial events, and even of dates and persons, to reckon justly upon all the changes, which, as affecting the prospects of little Charles in Cape Town, the removal of Lord Pontefract from the Governorship, (an event which happened in the interval,) had effectually produced. The Governor, his Lady, the Aide-de-Camp, and the English servants at the Government House, had sailed for Europe; and excepting that the Government House itself still stood

in its old place, everything belonging to the domestic establishment of the governing authority was altered. Sir John Dickinson, the new Governor, was a bachelor, a rigid soldier, and a man of business, and scarcely heard of out of his sphere of duty; and, moreover, he was seriously occupied with the troubles of a disastrous Caffre war, and with the internal complaints and somewhat turbulent proceedings of the Old or Dutch Colonists, concerning the plans of the English government at home, affecting the Cape currency, and the property of slaveholders. Sir John, therefore, and his Government House, were things which there was little chance of approaching, with any permanent benefit, with so small a tale as that of the afflictions of a little English boy, in search of his godmother. He might have gotten him received among the fifes or drums of one of the regiments in garrison, or in the field, if such had been the subject of request; but there was no romance of a lady's boudoir or britscka, or of gentle Aide-de-Camp, or of green monkey, or of attentive servants, to brighten the present, or to promise for the future, on Charles's return to Cape Town. So different is the same place, under different circumstances, and amid different persons; and so dependent are we, for so much that we either suffer or en-

joy, upon all the things, and all the creatures, by which or whom we are surrounded; and so grateful are we bound to be, and so much love are we bound to render, when those things or creatures not only contribute to, but create our happiness; and how little to our credit,—how disreputable both to our hearts and our understanding,—is any sulky feeling of an imaginary independence, or stupid pride of self-capacity to be the ministers of all our wants and comforts, instead of deep acknowledgment of the true sources from which they come; and any dull forgetfulness of the personal obligations under which we lie, for so much of all that either delights or soothes our moments, or advances our interests, or accomplishes our objects, or gives its colour to the history of our lives! The debt of gratitude is always greater than we can pay!

The Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk had long since heard and lamented the death of the Landdrost, and had not omitted to inquire what became of his orphan charge, after and amid the terrors of that event. She had heard, indeed, from the amiable lips of the young Mynheer Van Dunderblouwer, of the boy's safe arrival at Blouwveldt's, whence, as she had never doubted, he had been passed eastward to Graham's Town; and the same knowledge, and the same conclu-

sion, derived from the same source, had been received and formed at the Government House, long before the departure of Lady Pontefract. But the tale which now intervened, between Charles's arrival at Blouwveldt's, and his delivery at the Dutch whale-fisher's, was new, and as far as it was understood, either inexplicable, or marvellous, and almost incredible. Only a single feeling, in the meantime, followed the whole narration in the Vrouw. Imperfect as, in all its parts, it was, she saw enough in it to weep for it. Compassion was her sole emotion. She wept for the child that was so far removed from his mother and his home; that had seen his father perish in the waves; that had so long been tossed to and fro in a strange land, and that all the care of the Governor's lady, and of the kind-hearted Land-drost of Graaf-Reynet, had not been able to place under the protection of his only friends at the Cape. Nay, though the Vrouw at Blouwveldt's was of Dutch original, like herself; and though Lady Pontefract was but an English woman, she drew no very favourable contrast between the two, declaring, that after all, there were good and bad in every country; and that, often, the best actions were done by those of whom they might be least expected, and the worst by such as had enjoyed the greatest opportunities

of doing better ! “ To think,” she said, “ of a vile Vrouw, whose forefathers had been born in Holland, and who had herself been brought up in the Lutheran church, and taught to know her duty to God and man, to let herself be outdone by one who was nothing but an Englisher !” “ But, then,” as she added, “ to be sure, the Englishwoman was a *lady*—one of the *quality*—and such people were always better than the common sort, or, at least, they ought to be so.” —The Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk might as well have staid by her first decision ; namely, that there are good and bad of all sorts ; but she did not know, or did not call to her recollection, that Lady Pontefract had been no warmer friend to Charles than his Hottentot mammy, or than the generous Bushman-girl. The worthy woman, in the meantime, however she might err in her distribution of the virtues among others, was imbued with them herself ; and yielded, neither to Englishwomen, nor to Hottentot wives or daughters, in her desire to befriend the suffering : so, after taking care that Charles made a plentiful supper, and after endeavouring to comfort him under all his disappointments at Cape Town, she carried him to an upper room, and placed him in a comfortable bed.

CHAPTER XXXI.

— Thy soul forsook
The love of beauteous fields, and the blest lore
That man may find in Nature's outspread book !
ANON.

THE hostess of the Prinz Van Oranje did not fail to cause a representation to be made to his Excellency the Governor, of the circumstances under which a poor little orphan, and shipwrecked English boy, had been brought back to Cape Town, after his dispatch, longer than two years before, for Graham's Town, under the special patronage of the late noble occupants of the Government House; neither did his Excellency neglect causing it to be signified to the hostess of the Prinz Van Oranje, that he would consider about something that might be done for the shipwrecked English boy.

But the Governor's message encouraged no

immediate hope; and, as to Mynheer Van Hoogst, and his fellow-travellers, they were satisfied with having brought the boy to Cape Town, and with having paid for his first night's lodging, together with his supper and breakfast; while, as to all to come, they left it at the free disposal of the hostess and the Governor, taking no further care of Charles upon their shoulders. It might seem, indeed, that, in the absence of every one more ready to take part in the child's welfare, and especially in the simple task of either sending him forward to Graham's Town, or backward to England; the house of M'Cormack, to which the unfortunate ship *Nautilus* had been consigned, could, at least, have been asked to take some interest in the lot of this the smallest, and most helpless, of her surviving passengers. But whatever, in a happier event, could by possibility have followed from any attempt in that direction, the unfortunate failure of the house, and departure of those concerned in it from the colony, (events which had occurred only a few months before,) was called to recollection by Mynheer Van Bomsterwyk, as soon as, in a moment of forgetfulness, their names were mentioned by his Vrouw; and, in short, nothing remained, but that either Charles should be thrown upon the public charity of Cape Town, or that he should

linger on for a while, in the kitchen of the Prinz Van Oranje, at the sole charge of Mynheer and the Vrouw, in partial hope that the day was not far distant, when the Governor would fulfil his promise, to consider about something that might be done for the shipwrecked English boy.

The Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk had been moved by her first impressions of the singular, as well as unfortunate condition of little Charles; she had caught a tone of feeling in his behalf from that which she had seen displayed by Lady Pontefract, and by the Land-drost; she had half persuaded herself that a similar interest would be taken in him by the actual Governor, and that commiseration for the English orphan would once more be fashionable in Cape Town, reflecting applause and profit upon all engaged in it; and, more than this, she had anticipated, even at the worst, but a very short delay, before Charles, in any case, should cease to be a guest without a friend to pay his reckoning. The lapse of a fortnight or three weeks, therefore, during which no inquiries were made concerning him from the Government House, nor any thought bestowed, by any part of Cape Town, upon a child whose appearance, this time, had been ushered in by no fatal ship-

wreck, nor even by a startling storm; but who had arrived in an ordinary Dutch waggon, and was lodged in an ordinary Dutch inn,—the lapse of a fortnight or three weeks, in a manner so entirely unattractive and discouraging, made a change in the aspect of her English outcast, in the eyes of the hospitable Vrouw; and it is probable that, upon the strength of various cogent arguments which began to fall from her mouth, she would shortly have devolved her charge upon the public purse for his support, had not the little tale of his misfortunes suddenly found a new listener, and procured him, for the fleeting moment, another protector.

Neither the Vrouw, nor yet her careful husband, ever changed their first kindness into brutality, nor even into absolute hard treatment. They only grew indifferent about him. They left him to herd with the Hottentots and slaves of their small household, and to depend, for each of his daily wants, upon the favour, and upon the humour, of the Negro-girl in the kitchen. It was not long, therefore, before his appearance, and, what was still worse, his manners, began to show signs, not only of the neglect of others, but of himself! Not his situation only was sinking, but he was himself sinking to his situation. Charles, in the kitchen, and in the stable-yard, of the

Prinz Van Oranje, and in the dull streets, and amid the naked walls of Cape Town, was fast ceasing to be, either the innocent and rosy child of Derbyshire, or the adventurous wanderer of the African forest, hastening after the antelope or the Honey-bird; or even the interesting foster-brother of the Bush-girl, and companion of English Bushman, or fellow-traveller of the Caffre-band; but in the stead of these, was surrounded, and daily growing into a similitude, with the dirt and the vulgarity of the refuse of civilized society! Instead of the mountain and the river, instead of the forest and the flower; instead of the glossy sides and lively motions of the spring-buck; instead of the glowing colours of the birds and insects;—instead of that resplendent and melodious universe of nature, where all is purity and health, and vivacity, and vigour; where all is beauty to the eye, and music to the ear; where all is dignity, loveliness, and grace; Charles had now about him little beside the degraded and the mean; the wrecks of the things of the creation, the deformed, the mutilated, and the corrupt: and, so imitative is humanity, and so ready to mould itself to its situation, that, now, while lounging by the kitchen-fire, or sleeping upon the dunghill, his days were passed as tranquilly, though not, we

may be sure, as cheerfully, as when, with every morning's sun, he visited the calm waters of the lake or stream; gazed, every evening, upon the glories of the sun that gilded and empurpled the leafy hills; and breathed, from hour to hour, the untainted air! He submitted, too, without reluctance, to his association with the debased individuals of his species among whom he was placed, poisoned by the avarice of a vulgar civilization, or crushed and soiled by its oppressions; he could even mix in the jeers of the slaves and servants; he could wrangle with the Negro-cook for a foot-place at the fire, or for a morsel from the pan; and with her, and with her fellows, and with the naked imps of the yards and out-houses, he could return snarl for snarl, and blow for blow! Meantime, his clothes, which had scarcely held together to reach Cape Town, which had received some helping stitches from the *Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk*, and which had afterward been left to the sole charge of any Hottentot or Negro girl, that, either from labour or from merriment, would steal an instant to have pity upon him;—his clothes grew ragged as they grew dirty, and grew both the faster, for the rude and boisterous, and even quarrelsome life he led; and, along with his clothes, his skin, too, shared in the accumulating

filth from his two most ordinary resorts ; namely, the scullery and the pigstye. His hair was without a comb, and his face without a towel.

But Charles was passive in all this descent into evil. He merely took things as they came ; and neither he, nor any of those among whom he was thus thrown, believed that they were to last for ever. He retained all his better dispositions ; he acquired no reproachful inclinations ; he lived in the hope of better scenes, and of quitting, in their prospect, every idle habit, along with every hurtful humiliation. He was still a pilgrim, bent upon approaching Martha Hoyland, and still more upon beholding, at no distant day, his mother, and his sister, and his brothers ; and it was these visions that still saved him inwardly, however low he might seem to have fallen upon the outside. The Governor's promise, some time or other to think of what could be done for sending him to the eastward, kept everything in expectation, and in sufferance, and in neglect, as well with himself as with others ; and nothing was altered, either for the better or the worse, because a total and final change for the better was continually thought coming.

In the list of various nations, the scattered members of which are to be found among the

inhabitants of Cape Town, we are never to forget the names of Chinese labourers and Malay artificers ; the first distinguished by their simple wants and patient industry, and the second by an industry of the most ingenious forms, in every kind of handicraft, but especially in that manufacture of gold and silver trinkets, for which, in spite of the fewness, as well as incredible clumsiness of the tools, the whole East, from all antiquity, in so a high degree has been distinguished. It was a Malay goldsmith, then, whose hovel stood in the next street from the Prinz Van Oranje, that alone, in all the population of Cape Town, chanced, at the crisis of which we are speaking, to interpose, for the rescue of little Charles from the gulf into which he appeared to be swiftly swallowing. The Malay was too temperate, too domestic, too fearful of defilement from Christian company in general, and especially too sensitive to all the horrors of the boozing and intoxication of Dutch Africaner boors, in any case to have entered Mynheer Van Bomsterwyk's hostelry, or even to have lingered at its door, except in furtherance of the duties of his humble calling ; a motive which, as it had happened, actually brought him, one morning, into the *bar-room*, early enough to find it free from customers, and yet not so early

but that Jemima, the handsomest of the Vrouw's entire stock of Hottentot attendants, had already swept and washed away from the tables and floor the tobacco-ashes and clammy slops of potent beer; which, spilt and drying since the night before, had glued to the latter the mugs of the luxurious company. It was but the fourth morning after the arrival of Charles at Cape Town, and while his face was clean, and his clothes not yet arrived at their worst, that the goldsmith Namal came into the bar-room, almost as soon as the Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk had descended from her chamber, to bring home a pair of almost the largest and heaviest golden ear-rings that might be seen round Simon's Bay, and which he had mended, brushed, and beautified, in exact conformity with the orders of the Vrouw. The ear-rings, indeed, were wanted for a christening-party, at which the Vrouw was to assist on the same evening; and Namal, aware of the occasion, had come further provided with numerous necklaces, and rings, and bracelets, of the most fantastic and elaborate patterns, and even corals, and spoons, and similar productions of his art; anxious, from the temptation of their fitness or beauty, to receive, from the tasteful and wealthy mistress of the best-frequented house of entertainment in Dutch Cape Town, more

money than was simply due to him for his workmanship upon the ear-rings. The Vrouw, though she gave him small hopes of becoming a purchaser, permitted him to display his store, a task in which he was no sooner engaged, than with glistening eyes, and longing, outstretched heads and shoulders, the blooming Hottentot, Jemima, joined the party; followed, in but a few seconds, by the Negro girls and matrons, Lavinia, Phyllis, Chloe, Diana, Venus, and Latona¹. The group, too, was increased by the children, black or yellow, which came, either in their mothers' arms, or else approaching, nearer and more near, at first behind, and then in front of all the visitors; a freedom the more easy, because the Vrouw, for the time, was partly absorbed in contemplation of the jewellery, and partly not unwilling to

¹ The Dutch and other colonists have studiously given to their slaves the divine or human names of Pagan antiquity, upon the principle of shunning a supposed profaneness in the allowance of the usual names of Christians to those who are not Christians. As to the elegance, or the grandeur, in the meantime, of the names, the moderns, in bestowing them upon their slaves, have had before them somewhat of an example from the ancients. Among the Greeks, the word "Chrysos," which signifies "gold," was often the name borne by a slave; a circumstance by the way, that, in one of his odes, has furnished Anacreon with a simile and line of metaphorical expression, founded upon the facts, that "slaves" are apt to *run away*, and that it is the same with "gold!"

enjoy the sympathy, and even to consult the taste, of all her several handmaids. As suddenly, however, she became sensible, again, of the indecorum of the intrusion; and, now, with one tremendous and stern rebuke, the whole were compelled to fly, with the exception of Jemima, who claimed superior privilege, and of Charles, the new and favoured guest, who had fully joined in the general excitement; and whose amaze at the charms of gems and gold and silver, was not the least among those who made the party. In the end, the Vrouw added to her store a pair of golden bracelets, set with opal, the beauty of which she had found irresistible; and Jemima (first running to her hiding-place) produced coin enough to purchase a silver anklet, with bells, to adorn one of her naked feet, though not without the help of a ring in exchange, as well as not without the hope of buying the other anklet at an early day. As to Charles, with his finger to his mouth, he looked on in silence; though, when he saw that even Jemima could become the mistress of the large, hollow, and glistening ring of silver which was to shine and gingle upon her yellow ankle, he lifted his eyes to her's, as if to say, "And nothing here for me!" a plaint which the tender beauty felt sufficiently deeply to condole with, by pinching one of his ears, and telling

him, with a grin, that if he would let the good Namal bore his ears that moment, he should have ear-rings too; for she would buy him a pair of brass ones, big enough to reach his shoulders!

All this, in the meantime, would have been wholly unimportant to the history of little Charles, had it not been that the Malay goldsmith, when his spirits were raised by the purchase of part of his wares; when his suppressed anxiety for the safety of the whole, while they were pored over, and handled, and passed from one to the other, by the black and yellow group, was at an end; and when, at the conclusion of his bargain with the Vrouw, he was mildly sipping the orange-flower water of which he had ventured to call for a cool glass;—the Malay goldsmith (putting his hand upon Charles's head, stroking down his hair, and calling him "pitty boy," and finding him unable to speak Dutch) inquired of the Vrouw who he was, and whom he belonged to? The Vrouw, at the same moment, was laying her new bracelets across her wrists, and putting forth her two hands together, in warm admiration of her purchase; fully satisfied that, at the revel of the evening, even the gorgeous wife of the rich contractor Van Dam, so far from displaying their equals, would have nothing in any degree to compare with them.

The ingenious artificer himself, though from another train of thought, could not but share in the complacency thus bestowed upon the work of his hands; so, that his questions were neither soon answered, nor soon repeated: delays, however, that did not ultimately prevent his briefly learning, from the motherly, and, as we have seen, not wholly uncompassionate Vrouw, that the boy before him was the same of whom, two years before, he must have heard, when he was saved amid a shipwreck on the coast, where his father was drowned; that was sent for to the Government House, carried toward Graham's Town by the Land-drost, and was now returned to Cape Town, under circumstances which she hastily described; and, finally, was waiting for the Governor's promised assistance, once more to set out for Graham's Town.

“Hear of dat boy,” exclaimed the friendly goldsmith, as if repelling, because it would have been a reproach to him, the notion that he could have forgotten the story of Charles; “O marvels of heaven and earth, did I not hear of dat boy, and did I not see him wid mine eyes? Did I not see him at de Government House, when I was go to wait upon my Lady, when I was carry to my Lady the most beautiful gold and silver scent-box that ever I was make in all my

life, and dat ever was make by all mine ancestors, (peace to their souls !) in all Malaya ? And did I not see dis same pittty boy, when he was take by de hand, along de street, by dat goot young man, dat great young lord, what was de great General's Aide-de-camp, what has gone away to England wid de blessings of poor Malay, and poor Malayman's Vrouw, upon his young head ; and what shall never do him no harm, though poor Malay people no Christians !”

“ Yes, I remember,” interrupted the Vrouw, “ you and your wife had great reason to be thankful to the Aide-de-Camp.”

“ Tankful ! you say, tankful !” cried the Malay, again, with growing emotion : “ Did not my wife fall upon her knees to him ? Did she not bless him ? Did she not worship him ? Did I not kneel beside her ? Did we not pray for him ? Did we not call our children to dance round him ? Did not our Malay neighbours join with us ? Did we not make offerings to him, of flowers, and fire-works, and sherbet ? Did we not fold him in our hearts ? Did we not salute him among the spirits of heaven ? When he went away, in the great ship, did we not follow him to the beach with our blessings, and did we not gaze after him till we could see nothing for our tears ? And did we not throw flowers and cocoa-

nuts into the sea, to make the spirits of the great water kind to him? And did we not fill a little proa with filagree papers, and cocoa-nuts and flowers, and every luscious fruit, and set it before the wind, that it might drift far into the ocean, to draw to itself, and to carry away with itself, every thing that could threaten the great English ship that contained our benefactor?—Dat goot young man! Was it not he, that when our low roof was burning, and when we had thought all our children safe, sprung through the dirt and the smoke, and through the blazing fragments of the thatch, and laid hold of our dear Noni; and, clothed as he was in scarlet and gold all over, brought out our child in his arms, and carried him to the bosom of his mother; and did not I find Noni with his mother, when I thought that he had been carried to her own home, half an hour before, by our goot neighbour, Surabaya, the poor embroiderer? Oh my beautiful Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk, silver and gold are precious, and pearls, and emeralds, and rubies are lovely to the eye; but when the great and the gay ones of the earth are goot to the poor and the perishing, and employ themselves in offices of love, they are like the spirits of the topmost heaven, which come down, indeed, upon glit-

tering wings, but upon errands that are brighter still !”

The Vrouw was too busy with her ear-rings and her bracelets, to interrupt the Malay, in any part of all this burst of feeling, or even to reprove any of the wild ideas which had mixed themselves with his apostrophe, and betrayed his pagan breeding ; nor, in truth, had she heard much more of it than the part where he had talked of the loveliness and preciousness of rubies, and emeralds, and pearls, and silver, and gold, and of the beauty of the Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk ; in all of which, as she thought, he expressed himself very sensibly, for a Malay : setting in motion, at the sound of those his words, the lightly-hung drops of the ear-rings, and turning the bracelets so that they might sparkle in the morning sun.

Namal, in the meantime, (after drying away the tears that, in conjunction with the words in which he had indulged, had now abated the throbs invited by the warmth of his recollections,) was restrained from taking further notice of Charles, only by the understanding that his course was plain and easy, and that the Governor was already his patron ; circumstances which induced him to do no more than put upon one of the

boy's fingers a little ring of short-lived brilliance and the most trifling value ; after which, (though not without the profoundest acknowledgments to the Vrouw, and prayers for Charles, that every good spirit, and the Good Spirit of spirits, would bless him, and shelter him, and carry him to the goot woman, and her goot husband, at Graham's Town, and, more than all, would put him into the arms of his goot mother in England ;) after this, he took his leave of Charles and of the Vrouw.

He did not finally leave the Prinz Van Oranje, however, before he had been called into the out-houses of the servants and slaves, where Latona, Venus, and Lavinia and the rest, caused him to open anew the cheaper part of the samples he had brought with him ; and where (in part with the assistance of their fathers, their husbands, and their brothers) they made many purchases, and gave more commissions, in necklaces, ear-rings, armlets, anklets, and bracelets, for themselves and their children ; naked though were most of the latter, and nearly houseless all ; those for the children being for daily wear, while some of the remainder were chiefly designed to blaze and jingle at Hottentot and Negro balls and card-parties ; to one of which Lavinia, and several others, from the Prinz Van

Oranje, were to add to the gentility that very evening, under favour of the Vrouw's engagement at the christening-party, where a total eclipse was now in preparation for all the jewels of the gorgeous wife of Mynheer Contractor Van Dam. Like their modest mistress herself, too, Venus and Chloe, and even more, required numerous repairs of trinkets already their own; and while attending to all his customers of each colour, and endeavouring to understand with precision the orders of each, amid the boundless chatter of the whole; Namal the goldsmith increased his acquaintance with Charles, who had not failed to follow him, with the rest, into the slave-yard, still gazing, and still wondering at the show.

CHAPTER XXXII.

'Mang black Gentoos, and pagan Turks.

BURNS.

It was, then, to the goldsmith Namal, that Charles owed his deliverance from all the evils which, at this time, were growing one upon the other, from his lingering abode in the kitchen of the Prinz Van Oranje. There was no message from the Government House; and ever, as the soft-hearted Malay, either attended upon his customers in the slave-yard, or passed the front door of the Africaner inn, he inwardly grieved over the neglect of which he saw his "pitty English boy" the victim, and especially over his dirty face and hands, and slovenly apparel; and more than this, over that degraded listlessness of countenance and air, which, with a keen eye for the lines of nature, he fancied that he saw creeping onward, despite of all the secret workings of Charles's spirit, that, as we have said,

really subsisted, and more or less enlivened and sustained him. But the more that the good man saw, or thought he saw, the child decline, either inwardly or outwardly, the more his heart grew nearer to him, and the more he felt himself called upon to make little efforts for his relief. Nothing serious, or determined, was done, as we have said, upon any side, because every hour was expected to bring the commands of the silent Governor; and, the same time, the expectation itself was forgotten in the breast that entertained it, or only remembered at long intervals, as an excuse for indolent repose. Neither the goldsmith, therefore, nor any one else, thought of a decided change for the boy in Cape Town; and, as to the former, he was, for a long time, content only to advise a better care of the passing hour. Once, twice, or thrice, he had said to Charles, "Oh my littel boy, what a sad dirty face! Oh shame for English boy to be so dirty! Oh! for dat dirt upon you face, nobody can see how pitty you are;" but Charles, if he sometimes yielded to the rebuke of his new monitor, did it but rarely and imperfectly; and still the goldsmith waxed the warmer in his aid. By degrees, he came to draw him daily to his hovel, commending, to his wife, Sambayana, the child that had shared, with their own, the

zeal of the young Aide-de-Camp. And Sambayana had sweetmeats, and scented waters, and preparations of flour and milk, of which Charles showed no reluctance to partake, and which he could enjoy in the midst of a peace, external and internal, to which, now, for many weeks, he had been a stranger. There was little, (except the puffing of the bellows, at the mouth of the rude and diminutive furnace of Namal, at which he worked under an adjacent open shed,) to disturb the noiselessness of the goldsmith's dwelling, unless the frequent operation of those bellows, either as the workmanship variously required them, or as the fierce sunshine put out his fire; or else the songs of himself or his wife, or the shouts of his children; or, sometimes, the sudden call, in his garden, of one of those Cape birds that thus invite human help for the destruction of some snake which they have discovered; and till the killing of which they interrupt themselves in the midst of the liveliest and sweetest notes of all their feathered neighbours: and Charles found this a serene exchange, as well from the boisterous mirth, as from the angry screamings, of the Prinz Van Oranje. Beneath the roof of Namal and Sambayana, (itself a thatch without, and a bare frame within,) there was much to be distinguished from what is usual under a more

northern sky, and inmates of a different nation ; for, here, the climate and the manners brought together things that elsewhere might have been tokened, on the one hand extreme poverty, and, upon the other a luxurious affluence. The floor was earthen, and in part uneven ; for the frequent broom, removing the smallest dust or litter, had worn hollows in some places of the surface. Furniture there was scarcely any ; for the mats served both for seats and beds. The walls however, had a few shelves, and many hooks ; and on these were set or hung the entire assortment of household utensils. In a dark corner, however, was to be discovered an ornamented curtain, and before it, vases of flowers, together with a lamp, of which the wick, upon certain holidays, was lighted ; and behind all, as occasion ultimately enabled Charles to see, was a small image, the figure of the object of the household worship. But, here, was silk and gold, as well as fragrance and rich colours ; and upon the persons, also, of Namal and his wife, and still more upon those of their children, (though the dark skins of these latter had all of them, more or less, no other coverings), were valuable trinkets of silver, and gold, and gems.

Without ceasing to visit the premises of Mynheer Van Bomsterwyk, and to make them his pro-

per home, Charles became, daily, a longer and more frequent guest with the Malays; and the alteration speedily disclosed itself in the marked improvement of his manner and appearance. His curiosity received material indulgence, while permitted to witness and watch the minute labours of the goldsmith, who, cross-legged before the stone that served him for an anvil, or intent upon the crucible which, with its metal, and its workmanlike ingredients, was heating in the furnace, spent hours upon hours in bringing to the perfection which he gave them, the delicate toys that he so often fabricated. What he saw, too, he was anxious to imitate; and it was not long before his pride was gratified by the allowance to assist in some parts of the task, if only to blow the fire, or fetch coal or water; and, at last, even to hammer and to file, and to exult in rounding a ring, or polishing a bead. By these employments his mind was re-invigorated. His hours had once more their objects. He lamented the going down of the sun, whenever it left his work unfinished; and he longed for the return of the morning, when morning brought its work to be performed. With the restored health of his understanding, came, also, a renewed activity of body. He had a pleasure in motion, and he moved for what-

ever he thought of to be done. He was no longer indifferent to the rents nor to the soiling of his garments; and he no longer thought it greater labour than formerly, to apply almost as many ablutions to his person as his Malay patterns.

But, since Charles, in this manner, rose every day, into increased esteem with Namal and his Sambayana; and as his own attachment, with the same progress, grew every day the stronger to the Malay dwelling-place, it soon fell out, that the goldsmith, taking occasion from the Vrouw's jesting with him, as he made his salaam to her, at her door, about the frequent absence of Charles at his workshop;—the goldsmith, though with great caution and humility, ventured to propose, that he should come altogether to his hovel, for the short time which, no doubt, remained to be passed, before the Governor would find means to send him to the eastward. Namal pleaded the pleasure which the boy took in watching his own labours, in listening to his wife's songs and stories, and in playing with his children; and the Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk, not without so far adverting to Charles's permanent welfare as to reflect, that he would be as easily found, if wanted, at the Malay goldsmith's, as in her own kitchen or slave-yard, cheerfully gave

her consent to the change of the orphan's lodgings.

Namal, after this success, went joyously and swiftly homeward; nor, when he had related the adventure, was his joy greater, or more sincere, than that of Charles and Sambayana: "Thou hast done well, my husband," said the Malay wife, "to seize out of the slime, and bring away from the parching bottom, this poor fish, which has need of refreshing floods! It is related in the books of Siam, that once, while Buddha, in the figure of a Pelican, dwelt upon earth, there happened a drought so great, that all the waters of the lake upon the banks of which the Most Merciful thus lived, were daily drying away; and that already there were multitudes of fish which the departed waters had left uncovered, either to smother in the mud, or to faint and shrivel in the scorching sun, which soon hardened the surface, and seamed it with wide cracks. But, at so piteous a sight, the tender-hearted divinity, all Pelican as he was, thought of nothing but saving the poor fish, whole heaps of which, in his ample bill and pouch, he continued carrying, through all the drought, from wherever the lake left them, into deep pools and flowing rivers. Now, if Buddha, being a divinity, was thus busied to save simple fishes, from the slime in this place, and the parch-

ing clay in that; how worthily dost thou not do, my husband, to bring away this child, our fellow-creature, from the slime of dirt and meanness, and from the hot rays of turbulence and vice, either in which he was smothering, or beneath which he was scorched and shrivelling up!"

"Thou hast judged well, my ever tender Sam-bayana," returned Namal; "and well hast thou applied the lesson of one of those holy fables which saints and sages have imprinted upon the memory of mankind, not merely to please the imagination, but to teach virtuous actions! Thou knowest that it is of the nature of the divine Buddha to be altogether compassionate!"

Charles, indeed, in the time that followed, had soon occasion to observe, that a religious feeling, however misguided in its nature, and religious practices, however childish, and even ridiculous, were continually present, not daily only, but hourly also, in the house, in the garden, on the way-side, and in all the lives and actions of the family of his new foster-parents. They neither ate nor drank; they neither rose up nor lay down; they neither began nor ended anything; they scarcely looked to the sky, or to the earth; without something said, and something done, which was either an act of thankfulness for good

received, or a petition, or as a safeguard, against evil to be ! If they designed to drink, they first made drink-offerings, or libations, (either by spilling, upon their earthen floor, or other resting-place, a portion of that thin food,) to *spirits* of that earth from which is every fruit and increase ; or by throwing the liquor into the air, to reach the lips of the *spirits* of that air without which there is neither life, nor health, nor joy ; but from which, also, as from the earth equally, can come all things that are malignant, afflicting, and destructive ! In a word, they were as grateful for the smallest benefits, as they were fearful of the minutest evils ; and they showed, by all their practice, that they lived in the momentary sense of the existence, and possible arrival, both of the smallest and the greatest of the one and of the other. But this manner of thinking, with its consequent usages, however conformable to the real state of men and of the universe ; and however just, and however beautiful under certain aspects, was not without its mischiefs, even in a house so pure, so reasonable, and so actively good and virtuous, as this of Namal and Sambayana ; and still less in those of many neighbouring Malays, with the tenants, at least, of which, Charles now gradually formed an acquaintance. Even in the house, and in

the bosoms, of the good Sambayana and Namal, where the forms and the dictates of the superstition of their joint country were, the one practised with a heartfelt devotion, and the other productive of every just, and every tender work ; even here, the superstition of their joint country was still a superstition ; that is, it was burdensome and melancholy in greater proportion than that in which it freed its votaries of chains, and lightened them of sorrows. It was true that they rejoiced in every good, (the least, like the greatest,) that befell them ; but, upon the other hand, from their way of thinking, they lived in the continual fear, and even in the continual expectation, of approaching evil ; and this while the prospect of evil is more terrible than the prospect of good enlivening !

As the night, however, drew on, Charles laid himself down upon the little mat which was his new bed, and upon which he slept soundly till the morning. At day-break every one was stirring, and repairing to the bath ; on returning from which, Namal, drawing together his wife and children, in front of the curtain which concealed the idol, was followed by the whole group in the act of making certain gestures, and in speaking, or rather chanting, in low voices, cer-

tain words; none of either of which gestures or words were intelligible to Charles, but who heard and witnessed all in reverend silence, and with stillness of body. The acts of worship finished, Namal, accompanied by Charles, and by some of the children, went to begin the labours of his furnace; while Sambayana, not unassisted by her maid and the other children, swept and sprinkled the house, decorated it with flowers, and prepared the breakfast, at which, soon afterward, the family again assembled.

During the meal, the goldsmith having cast his eye upon some of the dazzling geraniums, (the produce of this their native country,) and thence commended the taste and care with which Sambayana had thus honoured the morning repast; the latter, after apologizing for what she called the scantiness of her bouquets and festoons, upon the score that it was not the flowery season of the Cape, concluded with a gentle sigh, that, alas! they should never see again such flowers as brightened the fields, and breathed perfumes in the air, in that beloved country beyond the eastern sea,—their own beloved Malaya; and, here, she turned, as was not uncommon with her, to the amazed and almost tearful children round the mat, and nursed their love of the unseen shores she spoke of as their only real

“home,” by fond descriptions of the surpassing beauty, the sweet odours, and the clustering profusion of the flowers by which it was adorned, and in the midst of which herself and their father had enjoyed their youth; so that even Charles (as far as he could be warmed by descriptions only) joined the children in lamenting that the Cape was not Malaya, and in agreeing that flowers so rich, so sweet, and so abundant, could be found in no other country. It was not of the odours, nor of the beauties, merely, of some of the flowers, and herbs, and trees, of her own Malaya, that she could boast; but also of the surpassing size of others. Compared with the forest-trees of Malaya, those of the Cape, she said, (and she might have added, those of Europe,) were pigmies. The magnitude of the flowers, creepers, and trees of Malaya, was what she extolled above the stunted vegetation of the foreign soils and climes: “*At home,*” said she, “we have creepers and vines (entwining trees of the same proportions) which hang a hundred feet to the ground, in girth as thick as a man’s body, and often more so; and the trees are generally from a hundred and sixty, to two hundred feet in height. Once, I saw a tree of which the measure was nine yards round; and even this is nothing to what I have heard of in the island of Java,

where, also, as I have been told, there grows the Devil's Betel Box, (for such is the foolish name the people give to it,) the largest and most magnificent flower in the whole world. It measures more than a yard across its leaves, from one outer edge of the flower to the other. Its nectarium, or inner cup, is nine inches in diameter, and nine inches deep, and can hold a gallon and a half of water; and it is this nectarium which is thus called the Devil's, or Gigantic Betel Box, or box for betel for chewing. The flower is of a yellow colour; and its weight is fifteen pounds¹."

Her descriptions, it must be admitted, of the flowers she had left, were a little heightened, (if that could be possible,) by the earnest feeling with which she looked back to them; but Namal, (even if he were not himself patriot enough to think all other flowers unequal to the Malayan,) at least made no effort to abate his wife's regret for them, except by offering the consideration, that the Cape, though it had not the flowers of Malaya, had yet flowers in the most extraordinary number and variety, which belonged to itself, and could not be found in Malaya; and flowers, too, of exceeding beauty,

¹ See accounts of Malay vegetation, in the Life and Services of Sir T. Stamford Raffles, &c. &c.

and some with fragrance: "It is certainly true, however," he subjoined, "that we Malaysians are born to delight ourselves with a profusion of flowers; and so, indeed, does it seem with all the other nations of the East. The Persians, (to come no further westward,) are themselves enamoured of a Persian traveller upon the Jumna and the Ganges, who was so struck with the fondness of the Hindoos for flowers, that he said, they seemed as necessary to them as food; an expression which may help to explain away the idle report of ancient times, that there was a nation in India which lived wholly upon flowers."

"No! no!" said, here, the sprightly little girl Pandava, the goldsmith's eldest daughter; "I will never believe that flowers can serve for breakfast or dinner for men and women, nor even for little boys and girls; though they may for fairies."

"And why for *fairies*, light of my eyes?" inquired Sambayana.

"Oh mother!" returned Pandava, "have you forgotten the pretty story that the Parsee¹ told us, in which the good fairies, (and that was in

¹ The *Parsees* (so called) of Bombay are of *Persian* origin, but are Old Persians, or Pagan Persians, as adhering to the Fire Worship, or ancient worship of their country; while the great majority of their countrymen have become converts to Mohammedanism, of the sect of Ali, otherwise called Shiahis, or Sheahis.

Persia, too !) when thousands of their warriors were taken prisoners by the wicked fairies, and hung in cages upon trees, came to the poor starving prisoners, all fluttering like so many birds, and fed them with flowers? I thought of those good little fairies yesterday, when my father was telling about the good pelicans that carried fish to their poor fellow-pelicans, whom wicked men had fastened to stakes, after first breaking their wings !”

Namal, as a finish to this little conversation upon flowers, bade all who heard him remark, how uniformly the divine Artificer of Nature had embellished it, under every form, and in every region, with the splendours of rich colours : “ You behold them,” said he, “ in the flowers of the herbs, and of the trees and shrubs ; in the birds and insects of the air, which so often, as they settle upon the shrubs, and trees, and herbage, appear again, as so many momentary flowers ; you behold them in the shells and fishes of the rivers and seas, among which latter, as among the rest, the gold and silver of the organized creation rivals the metals of the mine ; while the same mine has gems which repeat, again, the sparkle and the colours of the flowers, the birds, the insects, the shells, the fishes, and the metals ; to say nothing of the lamps of the

sky, which lengthen the list of Nature's jewels, which cover the sky as with reflexion of the flowers, the birds, the fishes, and the gems and metals of the earth; and which may be said to see themselves again upon the earth, in the metals, gems, and flowers! I say nothing of the rainbow, nor of the gay and sparkling dew-drops, nor of the images of the sun and stars, shining in the rivers, lakes, and seas; nor of the colours of the heavens, and of the clouds; nor of the fire-flies by night, nor of the air-bubbles by day; nor of the pearls, the coral, and the diamonds, the jasmin and the roses, which last I see, this moment, over again, in the teeth, the lips and eyes, of you my Sambayana, and of you my children! But, finally, it accords, plainly, with the manifest scheme of nature, that men and their arts should further multiply and repeat these glories (the living letters of the speech of the Omnipotent!) in all the works they do, either for their cities, or their temples, or their palaces or houses, or their raiment; and humble instruments to this great end, are those poor artizans, who, like myself, labour to ornament the limbs, the heads, and the hands and feet of our brethren and each other; so that, still again, the nations walk abroad, and fill up the dance, and lie on the grass, and beneath the trees, like other flowers

and birds, and gems, and stars, and beaming metals; and so that man, besides emulating the mountains and the hills, and the cedars, and the palm-trees, and the oaks, and the rose-bushes, in his pyramids, his temples, his palaces, and his cottages; and the forests and the meadows in cities, and in his gardens; and thus disputing the landscape with the sovereign planter, the Almighty Gardener; disputes, also, upon his own figure, and in the attire of his wife and children, the plumage of the birds, and the enamel of the flowers; adding to the beautiful world of nature, an almost equally beautiful world of art: while the great Artificer of all looks with delight upon the little triumphs of his creatures, and displays of the powers he has given them, as (so to compare things!) thou and I smile upon the labours of our children, upon their exhibitions of the strength which they have derived from us; and upon their skill in the arts which we have taught them, or that they mimic from our hands! I remember, too, that in regard of the apparel of human figures, the weavers of silks and muslins, and the craftsmen of a hundred beautiful devices, (nay, even the slender capabilities of the poor Namal,) contribute, in their way, to multiply, and to spread still wider, the objects and the surface of that

all-pervading and all-embracing beauty, of which, under so many aspects, we have been speaking; and which it has pleased the Author of the universe to make one of the most visible features of his work :

“ ‘Thou hast flowers for earth, and stars for heaven,
And gems for the blue sea !’ ”

Namal came back from the thought of that wide and sublime survey of the infinite universe in which he had indulged, to the low roof which sheltered himself and his children, and drew from this notion of the great scheme of nature, a lesson of gratitude and piety; of gratitude that his own weak hands were permitted to labour in the general task of beautification; and of pious content with the humility of his allotted portion. These views, in short, entered, for part, into the matter of those brief prayers and praises with which the Malay breakfast finished, as it also had begun.

The first hours of the morning thus disposed of, Charles, a little later in the day, underwent new and considerable changes in his appearance, and even received the seeds of others in his manners and ideas. The matron, Sambayana, from the beginning of Charles's visits to her dwelling, had not been sparing of her needle, to

stop the gaps in his torn and mouldering raiment, or of soap and water to remove the dirt which had every where disfigured him ; but, now that she could half reckon him as one of the children of her hearth, (and short as his stay with her was expected to be,) she was not long in projecting, with the full consent of her husband, and of Charles himself, an entire change, at once in the quality, and in the style of his habiliments. The weather was warm, and the example of all the Malay children at home and abroad was before him ; and he heard, therefore, with joy, the proposal of Sambayana, that he should throw away, at once, all the rags and patches, as well as rotten shoes and stockings, with which he was encumbered ; and, instead of supplying their place with English apparel, which would have been costly, put on (after a swim in the shallows of the bay, half healthful, half devout) the dress of the elder Malay boys, of which the principal and most conspicuous article was a cotton shirt or tunic, with a small silk sash, exquisitely woven, and in which all colours were brought together with the most harmonious arrangement. But, this principal alteration accomplished by Sambayana, and Charles's hair combed and cut ; Namal, also, had innovations to offer and effect, toward the per-

fection of his appearance. Upon his naked arms above, and upon his naked legs below, Namal placed silver armlets and anklets respectively; and while Charles's eyes, in transport at his metamorphosis, glistened like the silver itself, the good man, though not quite so easily as the rest, won his consent to bore his ears, for insertion into which he produced a pair of his prettiest, though not very valuable, gold ear-rings; ear-rings that were literally and solely rings, but larger than the circle of a crown-piece. Charles had shrunk, for some little time, from submitting to the degree of pain which he feared to be inseparable from this last operation; but, besides that he was so full of joy for his silver anklets and armlets, and so strongly tempted by the large gold ear-rings, and by the example of the children and their parents, and by the desire to please Namal and Sambayana by his consent; besides these things, he perceived that all the family attached a religious importance to his wearing of ear-rings, regarding them, according to the general practice of the East, as marks of submission to the will of God, of being entered into his service, and of aspiring and confiding to live under his blessing; that is, to do his bidding, to eat his bread, and to receive his

wages¹. But Namal, pleased with the docility of his pupil, and warmed with the benevolence, and the piety, of his own motives, did not, now, stop at adorning the ears and arms and ancles of the little English boy; but added a plain gold ring upon a toe of either foot. He placed also in the bosom of his tunic a small locket, brooch, or *amulet*, (for he called it by its Arabic original, *hamail*; whence, as we may believe, our European *amulet* or *hamaillette*, “a little *amail*,” or “*hamail*;)” chiefly for its oriental purpose of protecting (through the starry influence with which it had been carefully indued) the mind and body of his young favourite against all human accidents²!

¹ It would require more space than we can here afford, were we to enter into an explanation, (in other respects, perhaps desirable,) of that train of analogies which has presented itself to the human mind, so as to make the wearing of an ear-ring a symbol of dedication to the divine service.

² We are led by the same reason as in the preceding note, to suppress what, under the view of superstitions, we might otherwise wish to say, concerning lockets and brooches and amulets, and the astrological conceit of virtues imparted by the stars to metals.

As to the mentions of the Pelican, which, in the course of this chapter, have twice occurred, regarding both its history and fable; we may refer, for more upon the same subjects, to what will appear in the volumes of “The Pelican of the Wilderness,” by the Author of these pages.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

——— Oh! 'tis excellent
To have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous
To use it like a giant.

SHAKSPEARE.

THE temporary refuge, however, which Charles had now found beneath the roof of the hospitable Namal and Sambayana, was taken from him in a manner which no party had expected, either for its abruptness, or for the distressing circumstances which were its cause. It happened that the evening of a day that shortly followed the last of which we have been speaking, was the wake or vigil of a great religious festival of the Malays; and upon this occasion, the goldsmith, his wife, and the two elder children, all attired in their best apparel, went to assist at the service which was to be led by the priests in a large apartment of a house in one of the long, narrow, and dark streets of Cape Town. Charles was invited to

accompany them ; and, if he had entertained any objection whatever, all this would have been entirely removed by the promises made him, that besides partaking of a savoury supper, with abundance of sweetmeats, he would hear much singing, and see many lights and flowers, and rich and beautiful carpets, and silk canopies and curtains ; and find numerous worshippers and spectators. The two younger children, therefore, being left at home, in care of the Hottentot servant-girl, the whole family besides proceeded, at the proper time, or, rather, a few minutes after, to the place of festivity ; which, as they approached it, Charles found to be a large Dutch-built house, of which the door and all the windows stood wide open, all the latter filled with lights.

The singing of the priests and others had unfortunately commenced. Namal and his wife felt themselves to blame for being thus late ; but they had lost a little time in their care to adorn Charles to the utmost. In the street, in front of the door, was a crowd of the poorest and least orderly of the inhabitants of that metropolis, including individuals of almost every complexion, from a jet black to a whited brown ; and mingled Europeans, Mozambique Negroes, Hottentots, Chinese, Lascars, Bengalees, and others. The singing of the priests and their followers was

heard through the windows above ; so that the party were anxious to enter, and to ascend into the consecrated apartment, as speedily as possible ; and their object, here, was materially forwarded by the care of a Malay, stationed for that purpose, who continually cleared the doorway of gaping and obstinate intruders, at the same time politely asking even strangers, if of a better description, freely to walk in. Once arrived within the house, Charles and his conductors passed through a long dark hall or passage, upon the right hand of which a door opened into a large kitchen, where the noise of cooking was heard, even above the boisterous clamour of a crowd of disorderly visitors and assistants ; but upon the other was a somewhat capacious staircase, which led to the scene of worship upon the upper floor, and which Namal and his little band, without stopping an instant below, hastily ascended.

At the top of the stairs was a large lobby, where, again, the passage was partially obstructed by a body of strangers of every colour ; but through the midst of which Namal and his family were assisted by the porter to reach the open door of a large room, the immediate scene of the religious service ; but here the male and female parts of the congregation were separated from each other ; so, that while Namal, with Charles

and Noni, passed to the right, among the men, Sambayana, and her little daughter Pandava, went to the left, among the women.

The walls of the entire chamber were hung with a drapery of white cotton, which covered them in every part, and which was arranged in rich and tasteful folds, and ornamented with flowers. Numerous chandeliers, of cut glass, the manufacture of artists in England, were suspended from the ceiling, and liberally filled with lights; and at the upper end of the room stood an elegant canopy or tabernacle, composed of draperies of white and crimson. Upon a carpet, laid in front of the tabernacle, sat three aged priests, of very handsome figure, wearing long beards, and clothed in white vestments, who were engaged in a solemn chaunt, in the chorusses and other parts of which they were helped by the men in general, and by the delicious voices of the women and girls, and of the youths who joined the strain. All were occupied with the duties of the hour, and of the place, and surrounded, at the same time, by their friends and neighbours, and fellow-believers; and, among the associated figures thus to be seen, were those of Sambayana and Pandava, sitting cross-legged upon their mats, beside the widow Surabaya, in the same posture; she whose zeal to succour

her friends, at the time of the fire, had led Namal to believe, that among other services, she had carried to her own house, and placed on the same mat with her own children, the sleeping infant that in fact had being rescued by the young English Aide-de-Camp.

But, at this moment, a noise and commotion, not only unseemly, but frightful, suddenly began to make itself heard in the lobby; and, almost immediately afterward, both the one and the other spread themselves into the lower part of even the sacred room. An instant more, and the entire assembly was in confusion. The chaunt and the chorusses had ceased, the men were at blows, and each of them struggling either to attack or to resist; the shrieks of the women, and the screams of the children, were heard in every direction; the canopy was broken down; the priests insulted and struck; the hair of their beards pulled from their chins; their vestments soiled and spit upon; the chandeliers broken; the lights extinguished; the hangings torn from the walls, and the flowers trodden under foot; the lobby and the stair-case filled with scufflers and combatants; and many of the unhappy and inoffending Malays, men, women, and children, either bruised or trampled upon, and even thrown over the banisters!

A party of officers, including two or three young midshipmen, belonging to an English East Indiaman, then in the harbour, but about to sail at day-break with the next tide, had been carousing at a farewell dinner with some of their friends on shore, and were on their way to get on board, when, the crowd, the lights, and the sound of the choral service in this house of pious festivity, situate near the port, attracted their attention. In the passage through the dark streets, with no more than a slave or two to carry a lanthorn for their guide, nothing but the fear of the police had prevented them, (wildly intoxicated as several of them were,) from rareing forth their favourite songs, and from breaking, not only two or three, but half the windows that they passed; but, upon reaching the Malay house, the crowd, the lights, and the sound of other voices, raised up their rude exhilaration into a state of disgraceful madness; the fury of which, however, they temporarily checked, when, “coming-to,” as they said, before the Malay door, they formed an unanimous resolution to enter, and partake in whatever was going forward. The squalid and obsequious crowd in the street, no sooner beheld them approaching, than it instantly made them way; and even the Malay porter, though a little discomposed at the noise

and turbulence with which they had hitherto moved; yet, in deference to the charm, as well as confidence in the character, of an English uniform, maintained all the suavity of his previous deportment, and politely invited these, like all preceding strangers, to place their feet within the mansion. The door-posts, nevertheless, were scarcely behind them, than, attracted by the crowd and voluble tongues, and noisy cookery in the kitchen, they turned immediately into that part of the interior; and, where either the silliest, or else the fiercest of the whole, seized a wet dish-clout which lay upon a table hard by, and threw it at the head of an aged Malay woman, who, in an arm chair, and amid all the din, had been taking a nap before supper, in order to enable her the better to go through the after-fatigues of the evening. The outrage awoke and frightened the old woman, at the same time that it enraged herself and all about her; and, now, tongues, hands, and nails, and shovels, and tongs, and soup-ladles, had nearly confounded, and even demolished the stupid and ill-disposed midshipman, along with his half-guilty friends. By force of many intreaties and apologies, the companions of the offender, after seeing him in the complete grasp of those offended, procured his pardon and release; and the

next proceeding of the party, though much against the wish of the attendants, was to insist upon going up stairs, first promising the quietest demeanour. They had scarcely, however, reached the lobby, before, upon hearing more distinctly the voices of the women, and seeing the lights, and flowers, and draperies, they swore, at first, that there was a dance, and that they would instantly join it; and next, (having descried over the heads and shoulders of those who filled up the door-way, the priests seated upon the carpet, and the crimson canopy which rose behind their white vestments,) that the whole was "devil-worshipping," and that all the people were but poor and copper-skinned Malays, and good-for-nothing heathens. Be the assembly, however what it might, they were resolved upon forcing their way into the midst of it; and, for this purpose, they presently began to push and jostle with violence whoever opposed their further progress, an act which, to all who were Malays without, and to every heart within, appeared sacrilege of the deepest horror. The resistance, then, which they now met with, inflamed them moment after moment; the Malays, at the beginning, sought only to repress the efforts at intrusion; this provoked the Englishmen to blows, and blows were instantly returned.

With the strength and audacity of English seamen (so admirable when honourably employed !) these deeply inebriated individuals (as the majority of the party were) forced an almost instant admission into the sacred chamber ; where, amid the struggles, the intreaties, the execrations, and the imprecations of its proper inmates, and vehemently asserting the superiority of Englishmen, the worthlessness of foreigners, their hatred of Paganism, and their determination to have their way, and that nobody should stand against them ; they perpetrated, and brought upon the Malay temple and its votaries, all the crimes, all the sufferings, and all the confusion that has thus been mentioned under a general aspect, and of which we are now to come to particulars more closely connected with the persons of our peculiar history !

The original disturbers of the solemnity were but a small number of those English who latterly became partakers in the offence ; for the East-Indiaman's boat, with its crew, had long been waiting at the wharf, to take off their officers from their wassailing ; and, as the wharf was nigh at hand to the Malay festivities, and as the rumour, and even the shouts and cries of the aggressors and the aggrieved, came speedily to the sailors' ears, the latter, either to defend their offi-

cers from wrong, or to take part with them, right or wrong, soon hurried to the hapless house, where, ascending the stairs, and forcing their way into the midst, this addition to the strength of the assailants, and the violence of these new performers, were not the smallest parts of the calamity. But the Malays, who, at the first, were taken by surprise, as well as restrained by the sanctity of the place and the occasion, gradually regained their presence of mind; and, at the sense and sight of actual outrage, barbarity, and insolence, threw aside ceremonial restraints, and employed their own strength, their courage, and their weapons, (in none of all which were they deficient,) for the rescue of their priests and their friends, their wives and their children, and in vengeance of the injuries committed. The *creases* were now quickly drawn upon every side, and the English officers unsheathed their cutlasses and dirks; but the Malays were far too many to be confronted when aroused, and nothing but flight remained, both for officers and men. All sprung toward the staircase, from the uppermost banisters of which, thronged as it already was with fugitives, and even combatants, many were glad to leap or drop, as the last hope for life; and all, pursuing or pursued, rushed into the street, and hurried towards the wharf.

The police, alarmed, as, by this time, it was; hearing that English officers and Malays were in conflict; seeing the Englishmen in flight, and being aware of the accustomed fierce and murderous sallies of so many of the Malays, when in drink and among themselves, directed all their efforts to assist the retreat of the former, and to oppose, to the creases, and to the outstretched arms of the Malays, the long pikes which were their own protection. With that assistance the Englishmen reached their boat without a single material wound; and now, amid the darkness of the night, and with a vigorous plying of their oars, they passed breathless till they reached their ship, then lying, with anchor almost a-peak, in the outer harbour; fearful, no longer, indeed, of the Malays, but of some order from the Governor, or civil, or perhaps military interference, if the truth should reach the Secretary's office, before the ship got under weigh. But the boat had no sooner put them on board, than, the pilot being already there, and indeed waiting for their arrival, the captain gave orders for heaving the anchor; after which, with loosened sails, and a rising breeze, the guilty vessel stood to sea, and recommenced her Indian voyage.

Among the rioters, there were one or two, that, as they became sober, deeply lamented

the transaction in which they had been engaged, and anxiously hoped that they had done less mischief than their fears, and even their memory, painted to them, and that their hearts were warmly ready to deplore; but there were others of the party too ignorant, and too barbarian, for accessibility to any emotion thus soft, or thus honourable to their nature; and who, exulting in the success of their retreat, called all the rest a glorious evening's sport, and a noble finish to their "touching at the Cape." They were full of the Englishman's vice, upon every distant shore and soil; that of despising and insulting, and sometimes even of substantially outraging, everything that is not English; forgetful that all this is but the consequence of much ignorance of the head, joined with much viciousness of the heart; and that though there are *Englishmen* to be cited, upon such occasions, as examples, it is those *Englishmen* only whom England abhors and blushes to acknowledge for her sons! One of the ruffians, in the present instance, was able to tell, at breakfast the next morning, and as a case in point, (as to how an Englishman should serve any black fellow and Pagan, regarding whom he might think well of taking so much trouble,) the course which he had himself adopted on a walk in the neighbourhood of Calcutta; where, a poor

Hindoo cotton-weaver having been slow to leave his loom, and procure, as he had desired him, a light for his *cheroot*, he had gone, after receiving it, and after seeing the tobacco fairly lighted, to the back of the “rascal’s” bamboo hut, and setting fire to the broad leaves of its roof, consumed it, with the loom, and the warp, and the woof, and the cradle; and the small basket of rice, and smaller bag of salt, which were to have fed the family for the day! “It was true,” he added, “that a meddling fellow of a Zillah judge, (an Englishman himself, and who ought to have known better,) had kicked up a fuss about the matter, and would have had him tried, and perhaps hanged, under pretence of *arson*, if he could have discovered him, and got him into custody; and that there had been Thanadars, and Chocdars, and all the “dars” beside, in a paltry Mogul district, trying, for a long time, to ferret him out; but his person was unknown, and he had given the whole of them the slip, for he had no idea of being bothered about the burning of the *hog-sty* of a Bengalee weaver!”

This particular mode of assertion, in the meantime, of English superiority, was not wholly approved of by the entire company; and, in truth, there were not wanting some outward expressions of disgust, and a greater share of inward reprobation.

tion ; but, still, the English superiority to all the rest of the world was warmly supported ; and the first mate remembered that a native poet had said of his countrymen,

“ Pride in their port, defiance in their eye,
I see the lords of human kind pass by !”

“ I tell you what,” interrupted the second mate, (who, by the way, had his half pay on the Navy-list,) “ I like that English ‘ pride ’ and ‘ defiance ’ exceedingly well when there’s good reason for either ; but, at every other time, as I take it, it is the proudest thing in all the world, for the strongest man to be harmless, and for the boldest to be unpresuming ; and, as for ‘ lords of human kind,’ shiver all my timbers if I don’t think I ’ve sometimes seen as good ‘ lords ’ among some other sorts of people, as among us that are English only ! As for me, I am no scholar, you know, any more than the rest of ye, but I just read a piece of a remark by one of your book-writers, while I was on shore at Cape Town ; and the gentleman says this, just about some of the Old Indians, as they call themselves, (or Englishmen from India,) and some of their Mohammedan and Hindoo servants, just as he saw them, at that same Cape Town ; and he says, (but you may believe me,

or not believe me, you know, just as you like;) he says, says he, ‘They look a great deal more like ‘lords,’ than most of their English masters¹’; and so much for ‘lords of human kind,’ whether they are English, or Mussulman, or Hindoo! And let those who call themselves these ‘lords,’ behave and bethink themselves as ‘lords,’ or more shame for them if they do *not*; that is, let them remember, that strength is given, not to oppress the feeble, but to defend them. I would have it said, of all my countrymen, as of us fellows of the sea:

‘They shall find British sailors but conquer to save²!’ ”

¹ The brave and worthy seaman has here got into his head the observation of a Cape tourist, already cited in our work.

² It is pleasant to be able to put in contrast with any example of the misconduct of individual Englishmen in foreign countries, the exalted reputation which the nation at large has every where earned for itself with foreigners; and especially (as in the instance to be subjoined) in the remote East, and upon the borders, and among the wildernesses, of that Indian territory, with its hundred millions of people, whose dominion it has acquired, and whose destinies it sways. The missionary Wolff assures us that the language which follows was held to him in Afghanistan; and it is language which, as the reader will see, is equally honourable to the English people, as constituting a power among the nations of the earth, and to the reputation of that sentiment and phraseology which we are accustomed to call Oriental: — “Affghanistaun, (as he tells us) they said, must be governed again by a crowned king. We are neither Balkwee, nor Hazarah, nor Toorkomauns [that is, we

We go back, in the mean time, to what remained of the Malay assembly, and to the interval between the rush after the English drunkards into the street, and the return of the baffled pursuers. When the younger and stronger men had drawn their creases, joined by no small number of the women, and followed the enemy, scarcely any were left behind except the priests, the aged, the mothers, and the children. But there were some, and among them, several who belonged to neither of these classes, whom bodily injuries and wounds detained upon the spot; and who, thrown down, or reclining, as they were, upon the floors of the chamber, the lobby, and the hall, and upon the stairs, could only now be observed. One solitary individual alone, had met immediate death; but this was Surabaya, the friend and neighbour of Namal and Sambayana;

are not robbers]. Hindostaun has belonged to us: now [for want of a king] we are afraid of Runjud Singh, an infidel. Let the Franks [the English] give us a king, and we are their humble slaves! The Franks [the English] have taken Hindostaun, not by the sword, but by justice, equity, and knowledge; and they shall take the world by knowledge."—*Missionary Researches, &c. &c.* By the Rev. Joseph Wolff.

It may be proper to remind the reader, that "Frank" is the general Oriental name for Europeans; but that, in the present instance, English Franks, or English Europeans, were the immediate people in question.

the poor embroiderer; the young widow of the fisherman Manang, who had been devoured by a shark, twelve months before, while fishing in the bay; and the industrious and tender mother of two fatherless children, whom, with herself, she had maintained by her embroidery! The body of Surabaya was found almost at the bottom of the staircase, lifeless, and disfigured about the face and bosom, where it had been trodden upon by so many feet in passing, and where the slaughtered victim had fallen and been suffocated. But, though no other life seemed to have been yet lost, several men, and women, and children, were either crippled, or otherwise much hurt. Sambayana, Pandava, and Noni, were quite safe, except for some slight scratches and bruises; but it was not so with Namal, nor even with Charles. Namal had been thrown over the banisters; and in his fall, had broken one of his legs, and three of his ribs, and he lay helpless in the passage. Charles's collar-bone was broken, and he had received a deep wound from a random cut, inflicted in the darkness and confusion, by the weapon of one of his own furious and thoughtless countrymen. Enough, therefore, was upon the hands of the women and others who could still move, and who were now to afford their succours, or to render the last duties, amid all the

terror, too, which they still entertained of the probable return of the English and their husbands, and of a renewal of the combat in the house. Some, with groans and melancholy songs, carried home the body of Surabaya, and placed it beside the mat upon which lay asleep her infant orphans. Others led away the lame, or bound up the bleeding, or supported, as well as they could, the faint. A litter was made for Namal, who, amid the helplessness of his broken leg, and the pain and oppression of his broken ribs, took Charles by his side, and held him safely under his arm. A strong party carried the litter which bore the wounded to the goldsmith's dwelling; and Sambayana and her children walked along with it, consoling the sufferers, and weeping for their sakes.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

When one poor man helps another, God himself laughs for joy !

GERMAN PROVERB.

AFFLICTIONS thus profound were the fruit of the English disturbance among the Malays. At the abode of Namal were soon assembled a group of friends and neighbours, all lamenting the goldsmith's misfortune, and many offering their aid. Skilful surgery, both for Namal and Charles, would have been easily obtained without going out of the Malay community; for surgery, from the mechanical nature of its office, and the visible and tangible objects with which it principally deals, (that is, with the flesh and bones only of its patients,) arrives at even an early and high perfection among the least cultivated people; while medicine, or the cure of diseases, (of which latter the occasions are commonly so hidden from sense, and so little removable either through the hand or eye,) is, to rude nations an occult science, and to

the most instructed a slow, and often, after all, an exceedingly doubtful acquisition.

But it was not surgery alone for which Charles, still more Namal and his wife and children, had now necessity. The fracture and wound under which Charles was suffering were misfortunes easily remedied; but they were such, nevertheless, as demanded attendance, a resting-place, and general quiet, for the patient. The broken leg of Namal was a more serious trouble. It not only ensured, at the very best, a tedious personal confinement; but it turned his dwelling into a sick house, engrossed the cares of Sambayana, interrupted the course of his labours, and cut off the family resources for its daily bread. For each of these unhappy consequences, however, the charity of the purses, and of the hearts, of Namal's countrymen and neighbours was quick in finding all the relief that neighbours and countrymen could supply. Those of the Malay race alone were not permitted to take to themselves the joy of ministering to the sudden wants of Namal and Sambayana, and of their children and their household. With the society of any description of Europeans at the Cape, Namal and his friends and neighbours were indeed but little connected; and what had happened, therefore, was little, or (as we

ought to say) not in any degree, under its eye. But Africa and Asia afforded, as we have already made appear, a mixed community, the more united in itself through its exclusion from all other. Here were not only the Negro and the Hottentot, not only the Chinaman and the Malay; but the Hindoo also, and his Mohammedan conqueror, and the Parsee, (as we have said,) from Bombay, and the Turk from Asia Minor; and even the Jew, of a parentage from Syria. Among most of these, from his trade of goldsmith, he had customers as well as acquaintance; and all, of both these classes, now crowded around him, and his mourning wife, and afflicted children, eager to render one service or another, each in his different way. A Malay mother took charge of the two younger children; a Chinese found a bed for Noni; the Parsee, who had lately employed Namal upon trinkets for his daughter's wedding, was liberal with money. A Mohammedan doctor and surgeon, and fortune-teller, and juggler, and charmer of snakes, set Namal's leg, and Charles's collar-bone; and the Jew Benjamin, a general dealer in gold and silver, pearls, and diamonds, and old shoes, laid down his empty clothes'-bag, while he carried away Charles to his own house, to be lodged, fed, and nursed by his willing

sister, Brinah. Under his roof, and with the further assistance of a Jew doctor, (for neither would the Mohammedan have entered the house of the Jew, nor would the Jew have allowed the entrance of the Mohammedan,) Charles's bone was soon united, and the wound closed up; and while the hospitable Benjamin and Brinah still made him consider his home as with them, he went continually to and from Namal and Sambayana's, and played with Noni and Pandava and the little ones, all the time of Namal's recovery. It was strain enough, upon the notions of Benjamin, to be thus mixed with the idolators; but his aversions yielded to his pity; and there was no motive of that kind here, for his looking with forbearance upon a follower of the prophet of the Arabs!

All the kindness, meanwhile, of Benjamin and his family together, nor all the pleasure of his daily visits to the house of Namal, nor that of seeing the latter recovering, though slowly, from the effects of the violence which had been inflicted upon him; none of these things diverted the melancholy which had now begun to steal upon Charles, as, week after week, no tidings came from the Government House, that the Governor had found leisure to think of what could be done for sending him toward Graham's Town. The disappointment which

he experienced through the absence of Lady Pontefract, from whose promised correspondence with Lady Willoughby he had assured himself, both that his mother would learn the sorrowful tidings of his father's death, and of his own doubtful condition; and that, either directly or indirectly, he should himself hear of his mother, and his brothers, and his sister; this disappointment, which made still more bitter the failure of his journey in the direction of Martha Hoyland, and her husband, from whom, had he reached them, he reckoned confidently upon the same news; all this had never sat lightly upon his mind, and at the present time, it began to prey upon it. Good Benjamin, also, as well as the generous Namal, had graver wishes for him than could be satisfied by the extension of a short-lived hospitality; for they judged that nothing could substantially serve him, but his restoration to the mother of his heart; and that, considering upon the one side, all their want of means and knowledge requisite for sending him to England, and, upon the other, all that he said of his own desire to reach Martha Hoyland's, and confidence under that event, and all that related to his home and mother;—considering this, his progress toward Graham's Town was the thing chiefly and earnestly to endeavour.

Benjamin had easy access to the servants' hall at the Government House; and, in that quarter, he was able, not only to make his efforts for interesting the Governor's body-servant in the hapless situation of Charles, so far as to obtain his promise for sometimes finding an occasion to recall the memory of it to the representative of the sovereign in South Africa; but even with the same assistance, to get to the speech of His Excellency's private secretary, who readily took upon himself a similar task. When week, however, had still followed week, and the compassionate Jew could still discover nothing, but that the Governor still said, he would look out for a time for taking the disposal of the young English lad into consideration; then, at the end, he began to think, that nothing would ever be done, unless he stirred himself, in his proper person, to put so small a matter in train; after which the Governor's simple consent, either given, or not denied, might be sufficient for the rest. From the Government House to the Exchange Coffee House, or even to the sailors' lodging-houses round the port, was no unusual circuit for poor Benjamin, in the daily exercise of his vocation; and, if he had often made it with a bounding pulse, when going or returning from the making of a profitable sale or purchase, cer-

tainly it was not without sensations of a lively pleasure, that, his resolution taken, and his plan fixed, he set himself, the following morning, to learn the name of the first vessel that lay in the harbour, about to sail for Algoa Bay, and to have a little talk of business with the captain, in which it should not be the least important point, to ascertain the lowest terms upon which he would take a ship-wrecked and friendless Christian boy, “what wash ’way from all hish friends, and from hish poor mooter, what wash widow into te bargain,”—upon that coasting-voyage of seven hundred miles?

Benjamin was eminently successful in his negociations of the morning. He sold the captain a pea-jacket, and a new spy-glass, and a pair of *grains*, or three-pronged harpoons, all for “great deal less than they cost him;” and purchased, in return, a broken glass, a damaged speaking-trumpet, and an old hat, and two pair of boots, every one at “great deal more than they were worth,” or than he should “ever get for them again;” but in both cases, as the means of “helping him to take care of his family.” Besides all this, however, he concluded an agreement with the skipper, to carry Charles, at a very cheap rate, into the harbour of Algoa Bay; and for “the love of a Christian,” as the Jew

emphatically said, to take safe and speedy measures for sending, at last, the “dear, poor, little boy,” to the threshold of his dear godmother, Martha Hoyland. “For I love the pretty child,” added Benjamin, with the kindest emotion, “just all as one as if he belonged to my own peoplsh; and he is so goot,” continued he, “and he will take no room in the ship, and he will behave so prettily, and you will not know that he is on board!” The skipper, in fewer words, assented to all that Benjamin desired; and, at parting, reminded the latter, that the boy must be by the hatches of the *Pride of Dordrecht* before the turn of the tide, by daylight on the day following but one. At this time, it was happily an advanced part of the Cape summer, through all which season there is nothing to fear from the south-east winds, so adverse to a progress from Cape Town to Algoa Bay; and so troublesome, at many seasons, on this whole coast of “storms!”

But, these arrangements finished, Benjamin had still matters of importance to accomplish in behalf of the young adventurer; and, as well to carry the news of what was done, as to consult with his sister Brinah about what remained, he now went straight from the Exchange Coffee House to his own dwelling; stooping, as he went, under

the weight and bulk of his great bag of clothes and other merchandize. Charles was overjoyed upon being told that a ship was actually ready to carry him, and with the prospect of the quickest passage, to the beloved Martha Hoyland, whose image was still cherished, loved, and dreamed of, though considerably faded upon his mind; the joint effect of time, and of his own advance from infancy, the imperfect impressions of which latter left him to dote upon the recollections of his young godmother, almost without knowing why; and with no very distinct ideas, either of her person, or of her claims to his regard and confidence. He remembered, however, that she had danced him in her arms, and given him cakes, and fruit, and kisses; that she had red cheeks, and sung him songs, and used to smile upon him with her dark eyes; and, above all, that she had written to invite him to her house, and that his mother, when she suffered him to go away from home, had told him that he was going to Martha Hoyland, and that Martha would love him, and fondle him, and take as much care of him as herself; and moreover that it was now from Martha alone, that he expected to hear any account of that mother herself, and through Martha alone that he hoped ever again to behold that mother! The news of his immediate

voyage, therefore, transported him; his daily pining after Graham's Town now burst into the most impatient longing; and his promised happiness was hardly to be distinguished from an assured enjoyment. He danced, capered, and shouted; kissed Benjamin, in spite of his beard; and Brinah, in spite of her snuff and spectacles; and, while the two latter deliberated upon what was next to be accomplished for him, and looked carefully over the new purchases in the old-clothes'-bag, he hopped and bounded away from their door, to the side of the sick Namal's mat; striking, alternately, with a small cane, the hollow, open, silver rings upon his arms and ancles, to make a peal of bells, as far as he was able, in festivity for his good fortune, and to prepare the hearers for his visit.

“O father Namal!” said he, “what do you think? O mother Sambayana! O brother Noni! O sister Pandava, and all you little things beside! what do you think? Guess! Come, guess?”

But the news was evidently good, and there was little to guess, in the dwelling of Namal, except between the chance of a message from the Governor, and (what had become the more probable gratification) the success of the Jew in his researches after a passage to the Bay. The

guess, therefore was soon made; and nothing was left but to congratulate Charles upon this step toward the fulfilment of all his wishes!

Brinah was entirely of opinion with her brother Benjamin, that no time ought to be lost in communicating to the Government House the opportunity which offered for Charles's departure. In the way in which matters stood, it was required, even by proper respect, not to let the boy be sent away without the Governor's knowledge and approbation; and again, the visit which Benjamin should make, opened the last chance for His Excellency's marking his benevolence toward the child: and who could tell but, even now, he would not bestow a sum sufficient to pay the passage, and to furnish a suit of Christian clothes, both which things were indispensable; and both (as far as was too much to be feared at present) dependent upon Benjamin's own purse and stores, or upon the joint aid, perhaps, of the few children of Abraham that Cape Town contained, and whom Benjamin might be able to unite in the cause. The remnants of heathen covering and ornaments which Benjamin had still tolerated, must now, with the exception of the rings and amulet, be utterly laid aside; the silver armlets and anklets must either be returned to Namal, whose

present poverty needed them, however his delicacy might refuse ; or else be laid up by Charles, and one day carried to his mother, as memorials of the orphan's protection at the hands of the poor Malay. A jacket and trowsers, a pair of shoes, and a cap, were at present the immediate wants for the voyage, and for the journey to Graham's Town ; and, though Benjamin never thought of letting him depart without them, still he was prepared to tell many a piteous story of the case, rather than that the whole charges should fall upon the "poor Jew, what had to take care of his family."

After a dinner, at noon, upon fried fish and a little maccaroni, Benjamin, still in the humble vestments of his calling, (for better might have been at variance with his tale of poverty,) and taking with him Charles, like another Joseph out of the pit, departed from his obscure mansion, and took the nearest street toward the Esplanade and Government House. "My goot little boy," said he, as they moved forward together ; "we shall be sorry at part wit you, my dear child ; but it is for your goot, and you was go see your dear gotmooter, and hear of your dear mooter ; and who knows wetter, in all dis time, your dear mooter herself is not leave her own country, and come to tis terrible hot place, to

look for her own dear shile?" "Oh Benjamin!" answered Charles, "I am so happy to go to Martha Hoyland, and you have been so good to me, and so has good Mrs. Brinah, and so has Namal, and so has Sambayana; but, sure, my mother has not come from England, either by herself, or with James, and John, and Mary with her? But yet, who knows?"

They arrived, as Charles ended these words, at one of the wings of the Government House, where Benjamin, leaving the orphan out of sight, advanced with a bolder step than at his former application; for the event was now at his own disposal, and the sole doubt, as to whether the Governor would or would not lighten to him the burden of that work of charity in which he was himself resolutely engaged, was all that remained to be cleared up; for, that the latter would in any manner oppose the departure of Charles, there was no reason whatever to imagine. Benjamin inquired for the Private Secretary, but was taken by that gentleman to the Colonial Secretary's Office, within the building; where the Governor himself, at the moment, was, in the very act of giving audiences to various petitioners and applicants. The Private Secretary, after leading the Jew into the Governor's own room, and recalling to the Governor's

memory the nature of his humble errand, left him to manage his own case; and the Governor (who, though he had been any thing but active in his benevolence upon this occasion, was by no means without either good nature or generosity) speedily put into Benjamin's hand a sum more than sufficient to pay for Charles's passage, and to furnish him with even a little stock of clothes; bidding the Jew (whom he greatly commended for his good conduct, which, he said, had been such as to make him ashamed of his own neglect, and who assured him that the money was more than enough,) to do all that was wanted for the boy, and to put the rest into his own pocket. But Benjamin, encouraged by so kind though late a reception, after assuring the Governor, that excepting the lowest prices, which he should charge for the poor boy's clothes, and the sum also which (consistently with his conscience, and the care of his family) he was to pay the skipper, he would send every farthing with the boy to Graham's Town; next ventured to ask, whether His Excellency would not confer a greater favour still, by casting his eyes upon the pretty child, and letting him kiss his knees, and thank his benefactor; at the same time calling to recollection the misfortunes of Namal, who had been Charles's foster-father, but who had clothed,

or rather unclothed him, in a sad heathen manner! The Governor consented to this also; and Charles, though almost dumb at the fearful introduction, yet testified, with Benjamin's assistance, the thanks he owed; while the Governor, struck with his picturesque Malay apparel, now inquired earnestly into Namal's latest condition, and that of the children of Surabaya, sympathizing with the distresses of all, and lamenting that the offenders had never been found; and after hearing from Charles, through the lips of Benjamin, how tenderly he had been used by the Malay and his wife, he dismissed them both: first bidding Charles to be a good boy; telling him that he hoped he was at the end of his troubles; desiring him to call at the Government House, if ever he came again to Cape Town; and finally giving the Jew a further sum of ten dollars as a present for Namal, and of five for the orphan children of the dead Surabaya.

Benjamin kept his word with the Governor. He went joyfully to the house of Namal, where the sight of the bounty of ten dollars spread transport through the whole family; and sufficed, with the returning strength of the goldsmith, to reinstate him in his little trade of gold and silver work and beads. He carried the remaining five dollars to the guardian of the naked

children of Surabaya, of which less than half of one was enough to supply them with necklaces and ear-rings. On the next day, he persuaded Namal to receive back the armlets and anklets with which he had decorated Charles, to keep them, as he said, till the dear child came back again to see them all; for, argued he, when they are once from off his limbs, how many accidents, or how many thieves, may he not meet with, to take them away? For himself, he fitted the orphan, not only with clothes for his short passage; but with a smart jacket, and collared shirt, and tasselled cap, in which to go on shore, and to arrive at Martha Hoyland's like the son of his mother! Benjamin's conscience obliged him to make a certain profit upon all those articles of clothing, as well as upon the bedding and little sea-chest which completed the outfit of the young voyager; but after he and Brinah had fairly cast up the account, he put more than twenty dollars, which still remained, first into Charles's hand, and then into an opening of the lining of his jacket, which Brinah carefully sewed up; charging him to take care of the money just as if it were the warm blood from his heart; and to give it to Martha Hoyland, to keep for him, the very moment he saw her; and withal warning him, on the one side, that every

thing in the world was too uncertain that it might not be possible for his money to be yet necessary for saving his life; and, upon the other that it was so large a sum, and he was now so rich a man, that with less than five times as much, a frugal and industrious Israelite had commenced a profitable traffic, and made himself richer than Solomon! A little surplus small-change, which even yet went to balance the account, Benjamin dropped into the pocket of Charles's new trowsers, giving him leave to spend it how and as early as he pleased; and out of this, besides buying, of Benjamin himself, two silk sashes, and two plumes of feathers, for Noni and Pandava, and a pair of richly-wrought sandals for Sambayana; he loaded himself with sweetmeats for an evening regale of the whole family, adding the children of Surabaya; and not forgetting other sweetmeats, from a Jew confectioner, such as the children of Brinah, upon whom he showered them, might eat; and now, between this and the rising of the stars, he spent a last festal evening, under the alternate roofs of his two generous supporters, the descendant of Judah, and the idolatrous Malay. The children danced, and the neighbours came to join in good wishes to the young adventurer, and to partake of the sweetmeats and the story-

telling ; and among these, the fire-worshipping Parsee and his newly-married daughter, and the Mohammedan charmer of snakes. In the midst of every thing, Charles remembered another duty, that of giving thanks and farewells to the hostess of the Prinz Van Oranje ; to whom he carried sweetmeats, flowers, and three lory's feathers of the brightest scarlet. The Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk kissed the grateful face that brought them ; prayed to God to bless the orphan's expectations ; and sent to the innocent revellers at the Malay's, two large pitchers of as many sorts of sherbet ;—the orange-flower and the violet. Charles was to leave all before the next day, at noon.

At morning-parade, which the Governor happened to attend, Benjamin, so far from hesitating, went, with pride, (having Charles in his hand, and the latter in the best of his new suits,) to seek His Excellency ; displaying the change in the orphan's figure, offering to account for all the money received, and at least forcing His Excellency to look at the edges of the twenty dollars, which Brinah had temporarily laid bare in their hiding-place ; and calling down upon his head the blessings of him that delivered Israel out of the land of Egypt ! This done, the honest Jew led back his charge to his own dwel-

ling, where Brinah feasted him with lawful meats; and whence, after fresh tears and thanks, and advice and admonitions, at the Jew's, and fresh partings of the most affectionate sort, at Namal's and Sambayana's, he went, with the personal care of Benjamin, on board the *Pride of Dordrecht*. Namal was still too weak to reach the quay; but Sambayana, and Noni, and Pandava, came to kiss him as he stepped upon the plank which lay from the ship; and when, at high water, the latter was thrown off from her moorings, and when getting out into the harbour, she let go her mainsail, the mother and the children threw into the sea the nuts and the flowers which they had brought or had picked up for that purpose, bidding, in the name of the Spirit of all spirits, every good spirit to take care of him, and every evil one to keep away¹! Charles, for some time, held by the

¹ The modern European usage of *christening* ships, or throwing bottles of wine at their sterns, upon launching them, and of naming or *dedicating* them, are only remains of the long-established Pagan usages of offering libations and other sacrifices to the spirits of the deep, at the launches and departures from port, to procure them safety and success. Along the coast of Barbary, and in all other maritime countries where ancient ideas and manners still prevail, these sacrifices are still to be witnessed without alteration; and in Roman Catholic countries, even yet, there is little difference, except in the substitution of saints for sea-gods.

shrouds, and waved his hands, and then his cap, in return for all their prayers; but presently, his attention was called from these by the parting words, and last embrace of Benjamin, who, having finished some bargains with the small crew, was now going down the ship's side, into the boat that was to carry him on shore; and who finally told him, if any disappointment befel him at Graham's Town, to come back to Cape Town as he went; and to keep his money, as the apple of his eye, for that or any other necessity. The wind was fair to the eastward; and the *Pride of Dordrecht*, which had speedily cleared the harbour, was soon wholly out of sight.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Pursue, poor imp, the imaginary charm ;
Indulge gay Hope, and Fancy's pleasing fire !

BEATTIE.

THE recollections of a ship, and of the sea, were not of a nature to be the most cheerful to the mind of Charles, who had never been on board of the one, or afloat upon the other, since he was cast away in the Nautilus, and since he saw his father washed away by the same surge which devoured the Dutch philanthropist and his horse; nevertheless, the warmth of his present expectations almost lightened every care, and almost obliterated every mournful memory. He was sea-sick, however; and this broke down much of his remaining spirits.

“Will Martha Hoyland really be kind to me,” he questioned himself, as he lay, partly desponding, upon the deck, where the sails gave him a

shifting shelter from the sun, as the vessel heeled from starboard to larboard? “ Will she even remember me ; me, who should not know her if I were to pass her ? It is more than three years since she wrote to my mother ; she may have quite forgotten me in all this time ; or, as good Benjamin says, many things may have happened ! She may not live in the same place, and nobody may know where to find her, or I may be as far off as I was at the Land-drost’s farm at Blouwveldt’s, and I may again seen nobody, except some wicked Vrouw ! Martha Hoyland may not live, now, in that pretty house she told my mother of ; nor have that nice garden where the elephant came in, one night, and trod down the pea-stalks ! But, then, what will become of me ? How shall I ever hear of my poor mother, or ever get to where she is ? Oh ! I know ; I will get back to Cape Town, as Benjamin told me ; and very soon I shall be as big as the cabin-boy that was drowned in the Nautilus ; and, then, if nobody else will take me, some English captain will hire me, and I shall work my way back to England ; and, when I am once in England, I can beg along the roads to Derbyshire, or some good people will send me home to mother ! But Benjamin is right ; I must take care of the money in my best jacket ; for

there is no telling, even now, what may happen to me yet ! Ah ! it was as fine an afternoon as this, and I was travelling much more pleasantly, and playing with my dear little green monkey, and young Mynheer Van Dunderblouwer was telling me such pretty stories ; and, then, came the Bushmen at night, and killed my good friend the Land-drost ! But for that, I should have been at Martha Hoyland's two years ago ; and, even, perhaps, in England, with my mother !”

Charles ate no supper this evening ; but, when night came, he went below, and after some time fell fast asleep. In the morning, when he no longer beheld any signs of land, a bright sun and a blue sky were over his head. The sails showed a snow white, and the round masts shone with a yellow light. The breeze was as fresh as it was fair. The green waves, with their foaming crests, rolled in vast heights and hollows, or broke against the bows of the ship ; and the white sea-gulls, with their black-tipped wings, sometimes poised themselves in the air, and sometimes dipped into the deep, or flew hastily along the surface of the heaving waters. The stately albatross, with its white plumage, either hovered aloft, or sat gigantic upon the ocean. The wind whistled among the

cordage; and the ship, dipping fore and aft, was a gay and sparkling islet in the midst of the billows, to all who, unlike Charles, had stomachs proof against its motion, and had put on their sea-legs. The planks of the deck scorched his sides when he lay down upon them, and his hands when he attempted to rise up; and the pitch, melting in the seams, stuck to his clothes and skin.

By degrees, however, his sickness diminished. He was able, with steady feet, to pass from wheel to capstan; and to gaze at the gilt-heads and the flying-fish, or at the crimson and cup-like molluscas; or to sit upon a coil of rope, and count the hours to Graham's Town, or to hear the stories of the sailors; and especially that of the Flying Dutchman, the ghost of a certain ship, which, as they told him, was well known to haunt the seas about the Cape, and to have been seen by everybody, except by such as are so unbelieving that they believe nothing. This latter topic was the peculiar favourite after night-fall, and before the moon was up; when, however, if Charles looked round the horizon for the Flying Dutchman, he saw it not, and was presently fain to divert himself with the bubbles of light, which blazed and became extinguished again in the waves, as the latter ran along

the ship's sides, or dashed against the keel beneath her bowsprit. The voyage was now a delight to him, save only that he desired its end.

Half the distance, from Cape Town to Algoa Bay, was passed by; and Charles had begun to observe the frequent appearance of *schools*¹ or shoals of *black-fish*, the only species of real dolphin, or porpoise, which is found in the tropical and neighbouring parts of the Atlantic and Southern Oceans; and which differs from the porpoises or dolphins of the northern seas, not only in having darker coloured backs, a somewhat greater length, and slenderer proportions; but also by being without that sociable habit of playing about the ships they meet with, which, while it exposes them to the murder of the *grains*, has helped to procure to the dolphin, from the days of the highest antiquity, the reputation of being the friend of mariners, and even the friend of man; the guardian of his anchors, and the willing listener to his voice and flute. The weather had become cloudy, with baffling head-winds, which lengthened a voyage that is

¹ This is the seaman's pronunciation of the word *shoal*, when a shoal of fish is what he speaks of. He talks of *shoal* (shallow) water, but of *schools* (that is, multitudes) of fish; and we see, here, the primary meaning of *schools* and *scholars*, in respect of learning. A *school* of learning is an *assemblage* of disciples.

sometimes made in three days. The lead-coloured waves, with their chalky selvages, rolled joyless ; and the black-fish, blowing low jets from the single holes in their foreheads, were sporting, in numbers, through the brine, but though always a-head of the ship, yet always at a considerable distance ; as if they suspected danger from the approach of men ; or as if they were particularly shy of the skipper of the *Pride of Dordrecht*, who, smoking his pipe, and every now and then scanning them with his spy-glass, threatened confidently how many he would kill, when once he had got into the Bay. He promised himself a fair number of barrels of oil, from the melting of their blubber.

It was now Sunday ; and it was the reckoning of all hands on board, that, if they kept the breeze they had, the following Tuesday morning would see them safe in port. The crew was a handful of men and boys, of all colours and all faiths. There was Negro, Hottentot, Lascar ; an Englishman, an Irishman, and a Dutchman, or Creole Africaner, exclusive of the Africaner skipper who was chief. The Irishman had become Charles's especial crony. He could tell so many tales of Fairies and Rapparees ; he knew all about the Seven Champions of Christendom, and the goblin, Robin Artisson, that

used to steal the dirt out of the streets of Kilkenny¹. He informed him how the tooth of St. Patrick, after lying, a thousand years, in the shallows, at the edge of a lake, was found, by another saint, changed into the brightest diamond that ever was seen, but still in its own right shape of St. Patrick's cutting-tooth, out of his upper jaw; and carried to the chapel on the island in the lake, and buried under its altar, where nobody has ever seen it since: "But, howsomever," added he, "for that same raison, that lake is called the Lake of the Island of the Chapel of the Diamond Tooth; and it's not far from the place, mind ye, (and good luck to it!) where I was born; and what I tell you is as thrue as any thing you ever heard. And you see, Saint Pathrick was just stepping into the ferry-boat, to go to that same island, to say mass in the chapel, one fine morning, when that tooth (it was a cutting tooth, just the next to the eye-tooth, on the left side of his upper jaw) fell out of his head into the water, just between the dry land and the boat, where the water was shallow, and the minnows might be swimming along by the million. And did not Saint Pathrick look and look, and scrape a bit in the mud, all just to see if he

¹ See Burford Cottage, and its Robin Redbreast, Chapter X.

could not find his tooth; and did not he give it up, at the last, and just sit himself down in the boat, quite contented, and let the ferryman ferry him over to the island only, ye see, it boddered him a little while he was saying mass? For then, now, he could not spake just as he used to do, no, not for the life of him, though, ye see, he was a saint, and a very great saint, that he was; and, then, it was not till a thousand years after this, that another saint, but not so great a saint as Saint Pathrick, (some papse calls the name Phadrig, and what not; and I believe that it manes Pater, that's what you calls Peter;) what was the other saint doing, but just going over to say mass, in that same chapel, just as Saint Pathrick had gone a thousand years before! And this other saint, that was not so great a saint as Saint Pathrick, what did he do, but put one foot just upon the top of the stern of the boat; and, then, may be, when he was lifting the other, just to send it after it, and thinking of nothing, it happened, ye see, that he cast down his eyes on the water, (just as you or I might do, for all he was a saint,) and may be he was looking at the minnows, which were swimming along just as their forefathers swam before them; and, then, suddenly, what did he see, but something a-shining in the mud, between the dark-green rushes,

where the minnows were swimming, as straight, ye see, as the rushes would let them. However, whichever way it was, (and that's no matter, you know, so long as the principal part of the story is thrue, and it's as thrue as anything you ever heard;) some way or other, what did the saint see, just in the mud, by the roots of the young rushes, and where the minnows were swimming in and out; what did he see but something a-shining as if it were a star, and just so that he thought it would put his eyes out! And, then, says he, to himself, says he, that same thing that's a-shining after that fashion can't be a fish's eye, nor the white skin under its belly; and so, says he to the ferryman, says he, 'Taddy! stop a bit, Taddy;' (for the saint knew that the ferryman's name was Taddy, ye see, and he called him by it; for it would not do for a saint, no how, not to spake dacently to every man, though it should be but to a ferryman;) so says the saint, 'Taddy! stop a bit, Taddy;' (for every man has a name, and your saints, and praists, and sich like, they always calls a man by his name, when they knows it, even if he is but a ferryman;) so, says the saint, (that was a praist,) 'Taddy,' says he, 'stop a bit, Taddy! Won't I see what's a-shining there, like a star, or a diamond, or a piece of silver, and that can't be a fish's eye, nor

yet the white skin under it's belly?' And the ferryman answered and said, says he, (and he spake very reverently, ye see, to the saint; for the saint was a jontleman, and a praist; for the saint, ye see, was only a praist while he was alive, and he was not made a saint till after he was dead; no, no more was Saint Pathrick;—and the ferryman knew that he was a praist, and what's more, was a jontleman besides; and he knew that he was going to say mass;) so the ferryman spakes him very reverently, and he says, says he, 'Plase your reverence,' says he, (for he was not an ignorant fellow, ye see, that did not know how to behave himself before a praist; and may be he had been brought up to be a praist himself, but I don't know about that; but,) 'Plase your reverence!' says he, very reverently; 'Plase your reverence! I'll stop.' So the saint, (that was a praist,) what did he do, then? Did not he put his hand, (that was the hand of a praist, and of a saint,) into the water? Did not he put his right hand (no, it was his left hand, for the thing that was a-shining was on the left hand of the stern of the boat) into the water; and did not he muddle with his fingers, as I may say, (and may be the water was nodeeper than the first joint;) and did not he take out the tooth of Saint Pathrick, that was a diamond, and that Saint Pathrick had dropped, just at that same place, when he was

getting into the ferry-boat, to go to say mass, a thousand years before? And did not the praist honourably bury the tooth of Saint Pathrick, (that was grown into a diamond,) under the altar of the holy chapel on the island in the lake; and has not the diamond tooth of Saint Pathrick lain under the altar ever since, though, to be sure, nobody has ever seen it?"

In this manner, at the last, Mike brought to an end his story of the Lake of the Island of the Chapel of the Diamond Tooth; in his mode of narrating which, (where he dwells so much upon his saint's respectful address to the ferryman, whom he did not forget to call by his name,—Taddy,) we are reminded of one among the many points, in relation to life and manners, recorded of the late Admiral Lord Collingwood,—that he always forbade his officers to address his men in such terms as "You, sir," and others of the same disrespectful kind: "Even if you don't know a man's name," said he, "you can still call him 'sailor;'" and we are not at all to be surprised that our Irish and Roman Catholic story-teller, amid all his ignorance in other matters, should have thought it worth while, and should have been entirely capable, to mark out to his young hearer the beauty and importance of such a particular of the highest breeding; or should possess so much knowledge of life as to con-

sider its possession a necessary characteristic, in speaking of the deportment of one who was either priest, or gentleman, or saint. The Roman Catholic population of the world, and generally the continental population of Europe, (whether Roman Catholic or Protestant, in whatever else they may be deficient, retain, as bodies, the antique knowledge, and the observance when they choose, of all the elegance and suavity of human *manners*; and it is only amid the vulgarism of Protestant assumption and ignorance, (where mixed, too, with political pretension,) that we find their modern oblivion or disregard. But all the homage which men owe to each other is of reciprocal obligation. The lowest to the highest, and the highest to the lowest; the poorest to the richest, the richest to the poorest; the humblest in station to the highest, and the highest to the humblest. No man, except a vulgar man, thinks that he loses anything of his own dignity, by admitting, in all its degrees, the dignity of others; but every man, at the same moment, has a claim upon all others for the admission of his own dignity, whatever may be its amount; and there is no honest man without some dignity, because, in any case, he is a *man*. Yet these are lessons which, for obvious reasons, are always more easily learned, and therefore more commonly practised, by the high, than by the

low ; and hence it is, that as a body, the low are less well-bred than the high ; and thus a person in humble life will often push you from the pavement, where a prince of the blood would have given you the wall. But the poor and the humble have as much claim to the consideration of the high, as their opposites ; every one in his station. Buonaparte, at St. Helena, was walking, with General Gourgaud, and another, along a narrow path on the side of the rocks, when the party was met by a man with a heavy burden upon his shoulders. Buonaparte's companions appeared to be keeping the path, as if due to the "Emperor ;" but the "Emperor" stepped aside, and made the others do as much, saying, "Respect au fardeau !" that is, "Homage to the burden !" or, "Consideration for the load !" As to what might be added,—that reciprocal deference of all ranks, one to the other, which we are applauding, is the *virtue* of one state of society, and of one kind of human cultivation, (of which neither, in the meantime, are without the vices attendant upon their abuse ;) and its opposite is the *vice* of another state of society, and of another kind of human cultivation, neither of which, in their own, and in their best view, are without their virtues.—Happy he, who can pick out of both that only which is good in each, and keep far from him all the evil ! The one leans to slavery ;

the other, to the fostering of insolence, and to the infliction of outrage.

Be this, however, as it may, Michael the Irishman thought more about Sunday than any one else on board the *Pride of Dordrecht*; and he thought it right, too, that Charles should follow his example. Mike had a prayer-book in his chest, and he opened the thumbled leaves of the *matins* full in view of the young Englishman; but the latter had made small progress in reading when he left Derbyshire, and had scarcely seen a book since the wreck of the *Nautilus*. To read, therefore, surpassed his art; but Mike, besides a cross, had a collection of pictures (those useful, though sometimes deceitful, substitutes for books!) drawn from the text of Scripture, and from the Lives of the Saints; and these he commended to the meditations of Charles, after both had washed their faces carefully for the day, and while, for himself, he withdrew, with his prayer-book, to kneel, and to cross himself, behind the foremast, and thus indulge in his devotions. The skipper, meanwhile, was smoking upon the taffarel; the Hottentot was preparing the dinner; the Englishman cleaning the cabin; the Dutchman washing his shirt, the Negro piecing his straw hat, the Lascar lying asleep in the sun; and a dog was stretched across the Lascar, to keep himself the warmer.

The breeze was fresh, and once more, fair and steady ; the sails set, and the wheel made fast ; so that the ship was being wafted on her voyage at the sole labour of the elements.

Every thing was quiet, and therefore so far sabbath-like. There was not a sound, except of the softest trickling of the water, along the dividing sides of the ship ; and of the gentle splash of the spray, as the latter rose and fell upon the resisting liquid. Twice during this day, however, Charles had a sight of a great whale, of the species peculiar to these southern seas, which rose, at first head-foremost, almost immediately under the stern of the ship, and for a few seconds, seemed to sport with the vessel, by swimming round it as if it had been another whale, till, lifting its tail and sinking its head, it returned perpendicularly into the depths below ; and which, the second time, (that is, a few minutes after,) was seen to rise again, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, over the lee quarter, and to swim steadily in a parallel line with the *Pride of Dordrecht*, which it soon left behind ; its back fin occasionally above the water, and its black forehead, from the air-holes or nostrils, in which arose the jets of vapour that the huge fish continually snorted forth ¹.

¹ We persist in calling whales *fishes*, though with all recent naturalists (from Linnæus downward) against us ; and even

The short matins, however, of the pious islander concluded, he was in the next place desirous that Charles should dress, as well as meditate, in honour of the first day of the week; and here, too, exchanging his sailor's jacket for a long landsman's coat, and bringing out a new handkerchief, which had been bought at the fair of Killaloe, he gave to Charles his own example, besides pleading the practice, not only of all the "quality" on College Green, but of "all the *boys*, let alone the girls, and the married women," throughout the lands of Connaught. Charles had told him of the superfine blue jacket, and shining leather belt, of which he was the new and happy possessor; and even of the store of silver dollars, which the careful Brinah, with the concurrence of the equally careful Benjamin, had sewed into its lining; and Mike, besides that he really thought a clean skin and his best coat among the obligations of a Sunday's duty, was not insensible to the having it seen, by (among such as are not naturalists) the reflecting author, to one of whose works we have referred, upon this subject, in preceding notes, and even promised ourselves a few parting words in "self-defence." Space allows to us no indulgence of that kind, any more than a present opportunity to advert again to the article DOLPHIN, in Booth's Analytical Dictionary; but, as to Mr. Turner and the *whale*, we must at least enter our protest against the Scriptural argument tried to be drawn, both by that writer, and by some of the litigants at New York.

the skipper and his crew, that it was with “a young *jontleman*, sure,” that he passed so many hours in conversation, and by whom his stories were so well received: “And warn’t it always the way,” said he, “with Michael O’Sullivan, and with all that belonged to him, that they never kept company but with *jontlemen*? No, not one of them, since the time of Noah!”

Charles needed, in the meantime, but little invitation and encouragement for putting himself into full dress. He had longed for the ship’s arrival at her haven, not wholly without the consideration, that he should then jump into the boat, to go ashore, in his best jacket, and his tasseled cap. That he could have any pretence for wearing either of these on shipboard, was more than had entered his head; for Benjamin had expressly told him, that they were provided for his “going on shore.” Now, however, the suggestion and example of Mike opened an early and unexpected opportunity. His clothes were quickly changed; and he walked the deck the admiration of the crew in general, not less than of himself; and the rapture of the self-complacent Mike: “Your honour,” said the latter, to the skipper, as he lay reclined upon the taffarel, “may I make so bold as to bring this young *jontleman*, that’s just come on board of us this afternoon, (and is a small piece of a relation of

mine;) just to see how we are going on, and just to make his bow on the quarter-deck, and pay his compliments to the captain?" And the skipper, pardoning the joke, tapped, and tapped, with his tobacco-stopper, in the bowl of his pipe, while he replied; "Ya, dat is very fine indeed : dat littel boy!"

Nor did the display of Charles's possessions stop at this. The jacket had no sooner been out of the chest, than Mike obtained leave to try how twenty dollars felt when sewed in its lining; to weigh the weight of a garment enriched with such a treasure? The feel, he pronounced, was refreshing to a poor man's fingers; and the weight braced an O'Sullivan's nerves, like the air of the mountains of Wicklow! But the worthy Irishman was less prudent than elated. He made public what was intended to be a secret, and called every hand in all the ship to admire and rejoice like himself! When Charles went again below, to restore his fine apparel to its place, the ponderous and splendid jacket was passed from man to man; and all felt the hard dollars through the lining, and extolled the luxury of their cumbersomeness! In the end, however, the jacket was duly returned to its owner, and smoothly placed, once more, in its first depository.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Rocks, rivers, and smooth lakes more clear than glass
Untouched, unbreathed upon.

WORDSWORTH.

WHEN Charles awoke upon the Tuesday morning that succeeded, he found that, during the night, the *Pride of Dordrecht* had come to her anchorage, in Algoa Bay. The time was very early, and at first, the unusual stillness of everything on board exceedingly surprised him; for he neither recollected, at the moment, that expectation of the ship's making her port, which had been his last and most anxious thought before he slept; nor did the extreme quiet by which he found himself surrounded suggest to him the fulfilment of his hopes. On other mornings, the noise of feet upon the deck above; the stupendous preparations (as he thought them) for tacking the ship; the orders of the captain,

the answers of the men, the cries of the latter to each other; Dutch oaths, the Irishman's shouts of "Silence, boys! Blood and ouns, bodderation to ye, don't ye hear the captain?" and the various commands and answers, Dutch, English, Lascar, and Negro, "Haul taught!" "Belay that!" "Aye, aye, sir!" "Let go the halyards!" "What's dat stupid fellow doing with the main-sheets?" "The clew-lines are foul, sir!" "Den dousand dayfels fly away wid all of you!" "Aye, aye, sir!"—this, or even the working and creaking of the ship, and the break of the water at its side, to say nothing of an occasional sluicing, from the head of a wave, down the hatchways or the companion-stairs; this, or, at least, the noise of cooking in the frying-pan, and of the captain scolding the cabin-boy for his late spreading of the breakfast-table, and for the dirty knives and coffee-cups;—this, for (sad is it to say) breakfast had sometimes been quite ready and begun, before Charles had even dressed himself, though he could stay upon deck after midnight, listening to the long and never-varying tone of Michael's stories;—this had been the common picture of the mornings of his short coasting voyage; but, now, the ship was motionless, every tongue quiet, not a man to be heard or seen, except that Mynheer Binckenshoecks, the governor of the whole,

lay snoring in the berth opposite to that of Charles ! But, before the latter had well sent an inquiring eye around the cabin, where the sun shone full upon Mynheer's nose, the Lascar happened to come in his way, sent by the mate to fetch up some short yarns, for splicing the broken tiller of the ship's boat : " What makes the ship so quiet, Jambo," said Charles ; " is everybody asleep ?" But he asked both questions almost in a whisper, in sympathy with the general silence.

" Him ship asleep, too, lazy boy Inghileesee," answered the Lascar, himself scarcely yet awake ; but adding, " What ! you no know him ship asleep at anchor, and him town dere close upon him bowsprit ? You no believe, den, what him Jambo tell you last night ?"

These words had scarcely left the lips of Jambo, before Charles, still in his shirt only, had sprung out of the cabin, and gained the deck, and was directing his eyes over the fore-castle. Here, everything was at least as tranquil as the cabin he had left. The sun, though but little above the horizon, shone with intense power ; but all that it shone upon was calm and noiseless. A small battery, five or six wharfs, a few white-painted houses, reflected, here and there, amid a sparing herbage, and low thin woods, with trifling eminences behind, and a sandy

beach in front; this, with two ships from England, lying in the roads; a country whaler, and three smaller vessels, with several boats, either fastened to the wharfs, or the battery, or drawn upon the beach, but all at rest; the red-cross pendants at the mast-heads hanging as straight, and as fixed, adown the masts, or over the yards, as the masts themselves, and seeming as fixed in their positions as the blue sky behind them and above them; this was all that the land and water presented to his view, the *town* which the Lascar had spoken of, inclusive; and, as all was motionless on shore, so, from the shore to the ship, and from the ship away to seaward, the water lay in glassy smoothness and aerial peace, without a ruffle, and without a sound. Where it reflected the great orb of the ascending sun, it seemed changed into a mass of melted gold; but all the rest was green, and blue, and purple, except where, for its other reflections, it repeated, in its bosom, the white figures of the scanty dwellings, or the piles and plankings of the wharfs, and facings of the battery. Or, if there were element or living thing to break a solitude so bright, and yet so unbroken, it was the slap of the sea's surface, from one time to another, by some small and glittering fish, which leaped, for an instant, from beneath, and then dived again

below the little rings of the water which it had divided; or the sailing of the first white sea-bird of the morning, speeding its way silently along the mirror, painting it with its image, and here and there rippling it with the swift touch, either of its breast, or of its slanting wing. Once or twice, however, a blackfish, won by the pursuit of its prey to come so close in shore, rose to breathe, and throw its smoky jet, some four feet, or more, into the air; or, drawing, with elastic curve, its nose to its tail, and striking the latter against the element, sprang more loftily toward the skies, or bounded with successive leaps upon its course, half above, and half below the wave. But these were partial events in the soft monotony of the smooth bay, and tranquil early morning; and, as they were few, so also they were short, leaving all, at the next instant, to its regained repose.

The whole, in the meantime, that Charles yet beheld, was below the real *town*; that is, the town of Port Elizabeth, at which he was really to land, and to which the vessel, at the next tide, was to get up. What fixed so much of his attention, and seemed to him to satisfy all his hopes, was no more than an outpost, and a group of farms and dwellings, at the entrance of the harbour; and the spot where the ship lay, was, in reality,

a small nook, or inner bay, sheltered, by a natural mole, from those billows of the southern ocean which break incessantly upon the more open coast, and throw up sand at the mouths of its rivers, and whiten its shallows with the foam of an ever-raging surf. It was for the identical house of Martha Hoyland alone, that the fond boy, amid the entire prospect of shore and sea, strained, nevertheless, his inquiring eyes. No attempt to undeceive him, as to distances, had in any sort succeeded. He had been warned that even Graham's Town, supposing Martha Hoyland's to be near it, was at a remote inland point; and that to reach Algoa Bay, and even to set foot upon its beach, was but to make steps toward the arrival at his promised home. But every explanation of this kind, however it might convince his understanding, took no hold upon his imagination, which, now that he was to approach it by sea, still painted to him the farm of Martha and her husband as rising close to the water's edge; the same as, when he thought himself travelling to it in the waggons of the Landdrost, he had fancied it among brooks, and woods, and pastures, and corn-fields, and the stone dykes and mountain sides of his own native Derbyshire, and never brought the sea into his landscape! But, now, his eyes fixed upon a particular house,

which was larger, and to his fancy, more beautiful than all the rest, and surrounded by a better homestead ; it was this house, that, as he immediately persuaded himself, contained his Martha Hoyland, and her husband, and her children ; and thither, from that moment, he was frantic that boat and man should carry him ; or to set off, at once, in the ship's boat, by himself, which he was quite sure that, without all assistance, he could row and steer. At this moment, the turkeys, from their roosts upon the trees, and the English barn-door fowls, (after they had sat awake, for the hour past, upon their perches in the henroost,) began, now that the air had grown warmer, to come abroad, and to scratch the ground for worms ; and Charles, for the first time, heard the crow of a cock, in a region so far to the south, and to the east, of the land in which he was born, and to which the bird was nearly as strange as he. But the impatient voyager, now no longer able to contain himself, (though not till after he had returned crow for crow, and flapped his elbows against his sides, as joyously as the cock his wings, leaping, at the same time, upon the deck ;) the impatient voyager, now no longer able to contain himself, jumped down the fore-hatchway, and, seizing the shirt-collar of Mike, who, not long relieved from the

middle watch, was enjoying his first sleep,—
“Mike! Mike!” cried he, pulling the collar again and again; “come into the bows directly, that I may show you Martha Hoyland’s house, and all the cocks and hens; and I know that Martha will be at the door herself, by the time that you have come with me!”

“Och! bodderation to ye,” returned Mike; “away wid you, ye spalpeen; and why would ye be disturbing a dacent man, and a good sailor, after this fashion? Och! what do I want with Martha Hoyland, and her house, and her cocks and hens? Is it me that ye are after calling to the watch again for balderdash the like o’ that? Lave me alone, I say, ye spalpeen; don’t tell me a word about it, for divil a bit will I stir, for all ye can bodder me wid! Ye are just like the Peep-o-day-boys, in my own country, that won’t let dacent people sleep quietly in their beds, at *unsaisonable* hours, in a could morning; and all the harm I wish you is, that the Palers (“Peelers”) were after ye, ye young spalpeen!”

Despairing of success with his Irish friend, and of any immediate means of reaching the shore, Charles’s next resort was to the mate; but only upon the more humble errand of petitioning to be entrusted with the spy-glass, in order to discover whether he could not see Martha Hoy-

land either at some door or window? The spy-glass, after much entreaty, and with many charges not to drop it out of his hands, and especially not to drop it overboard, was actually allowed him; and, armed with this, and being, by this time, in part provided with his clothing, he renewed his reconnoiterings from the forecastle, in confident persuasion, that, now, he should very soon descry his godmother, and all his god-brothers and god-sisters.

And the chances, as it still appeared to him, were very much increasing; for, as the sun rose higher in the heaven, so, the awaking and the motion of the human inhabitants of the spot began to be more and more apparent. First one, and then a second, and then a third door or window was opened; and first one, and then a second fisherman or farmer, yawning, and still in his night-cap, appeared at the doors, or came down to the water's edge, first casting a look at the sky, and at all the horizon round; while the long shadows, even of those who had reached the boats, appeared to stretch back over the beach, and almost to touch the very thresholds they had crossed. After these began to be seen little children, rubbing their eyes, and dazzled with the low sunbeams, standing motionless, as if unwilling to begin the day; or coming down, with

naked legs and feet, to the moist sand, (bounded, at an uniform distance from the water, by the dry soil above,) to throw shells or pebbles into the sea, or to clamber into the boats; their white stays, and bright yellow-dyed flannel petticoats, contrasting with their roseate skins, as these with their shining, curled, and sunny locks; and, here and there, their mothers, or a black or yellow servant-girl, speaking to them from the windows, or looking after them from the door, either to encourage them to go forward, or to see which way they had taken, and to bid them beware of mischief. But the children were scarcely abroad, before a thin white smoke, rising perpendicularly into the tranquil air, announced, from chimney after chimney, that breakfast was beginning to be thought of; and, one by one, at all those successive sights, Charles leaped higher, and even shouted at the top of his voice, though doomed to the double vexation of neither receiving answer from the shore, nor hearing or seeing any thing in the ship, such as could promise him immediately to land.

The hours, in the meantime, advancing, many other changes presented themselves, in the skies, on the water, on the shore, and (not the least interesting to him) in the ship; almost sufficient to divert, for their respective intervals, the

strong feelings with which he rebelled against the delay. The watery vapours of the earth and sea, drawn up by the strengthening sun, formed themselves into light clouds, (a veil that mitigated, for a short period, the overpowering brightness;) and, with that phenomenon, and as its effect, came the morning breeze, waving the trees and herbage, driving, though gently, the chimney-smokes out of their perpendicular; curling and even tossing the water in the bay, which, now, no longer reflecting the objects upon shore, and scarcely, to appearance, even the colours of the sky; and no longer an uniform expanse, everywhere smooth, and everywhere of a sole tint; was now partitioned into various stripes and breadths, more or less ruffled in their surfaces, and coloured green and yellow, grey and purple. The ship herself felt the returning life, as well aloft, in the air, as beneath, in the water; she slightly rolled at her anchorage; her pendant played fantastically in the breeze; there was the noise of vivacity and motion; and, as the hours still advanced, Charles would have heard something like bustle and cookery behind him, but that, at this time, a fishing-boat, becalmed till after day-break beyond the bay, had now pushed in with a full sail, and, scattering the spray to her starboard and larboard, ran herself, at

length, deep into the sand, and was quickly discharging her freight ;—those heaps of fish, which, as they were successively raised from out of the boat, gleamed upon the beach like so many piles of polished silver !

By eight o'clock, in short, Charles was summoned to a hearty breakfast, for which, when once drawn from his contemplation of the shore, he found that he was quite ready. During this meal, also, he learned to correct many of the mistakes into which he had fallen. Mynheer Binkenshoecks was able to bring him over to the belief, that the little hamlet upon which he had been gazing was neither Graham's Town, nor even Port Elizabeth, at which he was first to set foot on shore ; that his discovery of Martha Hoyland, or her husband, or her children, at any time that morning, were events entirely out of the question ; though the houses and families which he had partly seen, were certainly English, and belonged to the English colonization of this part of the country, which, a few years before, the government had undertaken. He softened, however, those disappointments, by telling him, further, that in about an hour after breakfast should be finished, the tide would serve for getting up the bay, when the anchor would be heaved ; and, that probably by eleven the

ship would enter Port Elizabeth :—“ And den, mine little boy,” he concluded, “ we shall see what can be done for you, to put you forward to Graham’s Town, where, however, you will not find yourself arrive, no, not dese two, tree, days ; if you do get dere so soon as dat ! But first, we will ask in Port Elizabeth, wedder any body knows any ding of dat goot woman, your god-mother ; and, if not, why, den, mine child, you will not be able to hear any thing of dat Martha Hoyland, nor of dat Tom Hoyland, nor of der dear *kinders*, what you call dare children, no, not till you get to Graham’s Town ! So, make dine self ver’ content, mine goot poy !”

“ Content” was a hard word, in Charles’s vocabulary, at such a moment as that then passing. Consternation was a state of mind more truly similar to what he now experienced, irrevocably satisfied, as, at length he was, that all his dreams of the early morning had been as false as they had been fleeting ; and the only refuge left him was in nervous and eager inquiries concerning all that country, still unseen, and scarcely approached, where only he was to count upon indeed beholding the door of Martha Hoyland, and upon hearing, at least, at length, and after so many bitter disappointments, of that mother upon whose only bosom he could really find “ con-

tent !” Fortunately, Mynheer Binkenshoecks, relieved from the cares of the voyage, satisfied with his night’s rest, and with his breakfast, appeased ; though with sending no more than two of his motley crew to “ Die tayfel ” that same morning ; and obliged to wait upon the tide for the heaving of his anchor ; and being moreover to part with his young passenger, and not wholly forgetting his promise to the Jew Benjamin, “ for the love of a Christian,” to see him properly set forward between the port and Graham’s Town ;—fortunately, at least for whiling a heavy hour with Charles, Mynheer Binkenshoecks was now more talkative, and more disposed to take notice of him, than he had hitherto appeared ; so, that he answered, with tolerable fulness, many of the questions, (and some of them even silly ones,) concerning which Charles was curious, at this fluttering moment.

His informant communicated to him, therefore, (what, indeed, the reader has partly heard already,) that the country upon the coast of which they were then lying, was that western part of the Cape Colony, or of the southernmost part of Africa, which has been called Caffraria, or Caffer, or Caffreland, or the country of the Pagans, Infidels, or Caffres, Caffirs, or Caufirs ; names adopted by the Portuguese from the Mo-

hammedan Arabians who preceded them in the commerce and navigation of these seas; and by them transmitted to the Dutch, the English, and the other European nations. He told him, that upon the eastern coast of Caffraria lay the Indian Ocean; as, upon the western coast of the Hottentot country, or more ancient seats of the Colony, lay the Atlantic; and upon the whole southern coast, the Southern Ocean, which they had themselves been navigating. He represented, also, that so long as the Dutch were masters of the colony, and even for many years after, Caffraria formed its eastern boundary, and the Great Fish-river the line which divided the two countries; but that, since the conclusion of the English Caffre-war, all the land between that river and the river Keiscamma had formed an addition to the colony; the Caffres, under their king Gaica, having ceded it to the English. Within the old territory, however, (though a portion of it was always disputed with the Dutch by the Caffres¹,) was the district of Albany, which,

¹ This particular portion of territory is among the occasions of all our Caffre-wars.

We may take the opportunity of this note to observe, that it is to the Portuguese name of the bay in which we find our Pride of Dordrecht now riding, that is owed the English corrupted names, Algoa, and Delagoa. The lake-like appearance of the bay, which has been somewhat adverted to in the text above, procured for it, from the Portuguese, the name of

by the former, upon account of the *sour grass* that grows there, had been called Zureveldt, and upon the coast of which they then were; for it was the capital of that district which now bore the name of Graham's Town, though the Dutch, who began its building, had called it otherwise; and Graham's Town, he said, was the residence of a Lieutenant-governor, and the head-quarters of the English troops that had their station upon this eastern frontier. Still to the eastward, however, of the district of Albany, was Bathurst, with its Port Frances, at the mouth of the river Cowie; as this of Albany had its Port Elizabeth, at the mouth of its own river. "But alas!" added he, with a sigh, "the whole country, beautiful and fertile as it is within land, has neither a port that is generally safe, nor a river that is in any degree navigable. Even the rivers of which even the mouths are anything better than winter torrents, are obstructed, to seaward, by bars of sand that lie high and dry; for sand composes all the coast, and even its rocks, where there are any, though fantastic in figure, are but of water-worn and mouldering sandstone."

Throughout Albany, as he bade Charles expect, Dutch farmers and farms are still suffi-

Bahia da Lagoa, or Bay of the Lake, or Lake Bay; and from "Bay da Lagoa," or "Dalagoa," we get "Delagoa," and "Algoa Bay."

ciently plentiful and generally the most wealthy ; though the numbers and activity of the English new-comers, were, as he allowed, surprising. Even Graham's Town had been an ancient Dutch settlement, with its land-drost and commandant, such as those officers as are still continued in it ; but, then what was Graham's Town, before the arrival of the skilful and enterprising English emigrants, who were planted there to strengthen the frontier, and defend the new possessions, after the establishment of the Caffre peace, in the year 1819 ? The old town of the Dutchmen was a rude village of some twenty houses ; but, in its enlarged state, it is a considerable place, with many handsome buildings, and well furnished shops, and exhibits all the marks of business and prosperity !

“ But does your goot godmother keep a shop in Graham's Town, mine child ? ” said, now, the skipper ; interrupting his former discourse, because, as he said, the tide was about to serve, and that the next thing would be to dispatch Charles from Port Elizabeth ; and, indeed, the pilot had already begun to talk of manning the capstan, and of taking care that the cable did not get foul.

“ Oh ! no,” replied Charles ; “ my godmother lives on a farm, but it is somewhere very near to Graham's Town ! ”

“ But is dat all you know, mine child ? ”

“Oh ! yes, I know that it is very near ; my father knew the name of the place, but I don't.”

“ ‘ Very near,’ mine poor child,” repeated after him Mynheer Binkenshoecks ; “ ‘ very near,’ did you say, mine poor child, and you don't know de name ? I wonder, den, wedder you will ever find it ? ‘ Very near,’ mine poor child ! I wonder wedder it is five hundred miles away, or only one ? Dat is always de talk of your Vaderland-volk¹ ! They dink every ding ‘ very near,’ in dis great wide country ; dough, sometimes, it is a dousand miles away ! Well, mine child, we will do de best for you dat we can. You must go to Graham's Town, to be sure : and dare you must ask all de volk for your godmother, de goot Martha Hoyland ? Or, perhaps, you will do better. Perhaps, dey will know, at the Government House, where is Tom Hoyland's farm ; but it may be through many woods, and over many rivers. But, now, stand out of de way ; or go below, mine child, and wash your face, and comb your hair, and put on your best clothes ; for de ship will soon be up to de port, and den we will go ashore, and wait upon de Comman-dant ; and, perhaps, he will be able to send you to Graham's Town, and even to find out your goot godmother.”

¹ “ People *at home*,” or in the fatherland, or *patria* ; or land of their ancestors or fathers.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Him great harms had taught much care.

SIR PHILIP SYDNEY.

AT the sound of the last joyful words, Charles, whose colour, during the former part of the skipper's observations, had went and gone, the smiles at one moment upon his cheeks, and the tears at the next moment in his eyes; while, in his breast, (as Mike related it,) his heart had flown about, like a little bird in a tree;—Charles, at the joyful words which made the end, leaped down the companion-stairs, flew to his chest, and commenced with eagerness his toilet; only too happy to be at length encouraged in that work; to obtain a hope of speedy debarkation; and to be told of the possibility of finding Martha Hoyland,—by which he understood, in plainer English, the undoubted certainty! Once more, he believed himself already in her arms, and once more he thought himself already lis-

tening to all that he assured himself she could tell him of his mother and his home ! He saw her take out of her drawers the careful bundle of his mother's letters, bound round with riband, and deposited with lace and muslin, and babies' caps, and with a branch of dried English violets ; and he listened to the tender words which his mother had sent to be read to his very self ; to the messages of love and admonition ; to the warnings to beware of lions and rhinoceroses, to all the " foolish " fears of a Derbyshire nursery, about sharks and elephants ; to her charges not to be too venturesome ; to remember his mother, and his brother John, and his little brother and sister, James and Mary, and to take care of himself for their sakes ; to her condolences of his orphanage ; to inquiries about his health and height ; to her trust in his good temper and obedience ; in his love of truth, and willingness to oblige ; in his thankfulness to God and man ; in his acknowledgment, among all things, of a reciprocal and universal dependence ; and in that humility, that gratefulness, that readiness to do services, and to confer favours, which this sentiment so directly teaches : and finally to her repeated questions to good Martha, whether his cheeks were still plump, and still red, and his soft hair still curly ?

But, while he thus thought, and talked, and sung, all by himself, and as his spirits or his fancy led, his toilet was made, and his best trowsers, boots, jacket, and tasselled cap, and snowy shirt, were all put on ; and many a bound did he make, (the cabin-glass dimly displaying to him his metamorphosis,) and many an exulting whoop : “ Oh how mother would like to see me now ! How little she thinks that my belt is black and shining like this ! I dare say she fancies that I have no cap but of the skin of a hyena ! Oh ! if she were to see my cloth cap, and its silk tassel, how she would wonder ! But, when I get to Martha’s, I shall soon learn to write, and then I’ll tell her all about it ; and, first, Martha shall write, and tell her all that I say ! ” But, neither Martha nor his mother being yet at hand, no sooner was he completely dressed, than up he sprang to the deck, to show himself to Mynheer Binkenshoecks and Michael O’Sullivan, and to see whether the ship was not already at the wharf ?

It is true, that in the interval which had now elapsed, the anchor had been weighed, the sails set, and the ship, with a brisk wind, impelled half way up the bay. But never was a more conspicuous alteration ! Charles could find nothing that he had left ; and when, after some moments

of breathless gazing upon the prospect, he saw nothing near him but dancing waves, nothing behind him but an outspread ocean, (all, so far, but as the day before,) and nothing before him, in the long distance, but a selvage of white and leaping foam, severing the sea from land, and land from sea; all his spirits, all his courage, all his manhood, at once forsook him, and he burst forth in one tremendous scream, followed by overwhelming tears! Every hand was at the moment occupied. The lead was heaving; the pilot was eyeing the sails, and looking at the colour of the water, and at a distant landmark; the skipper was walking the deck, pondering upon his business ashore, and upon his own venture in the *Pride of Dordrecht*; the cook was preparing the dinner, and all the rest were employed in vocations connected with the termination of the little coasting voyage: "What is de matter," cried the pilot, nevertheless, (willing to show how humorous he could make himself, and to raise a laugh at the expense of blubbering Charles;) "What is de matter, here, Master Skipper," said he, to the meditative *Mynheer Binkenshoecks*? "Is dere a man overboard, or has dis young kinder just been eaten by a shark?" And now the skipper interfered; and now Mike, as he came aft, for a marline-spike, and as he caught

Charles's explanation of his shock, gravely besought "a young jontleman, that was a rale jontleman," to be ashamed of crying like a nurse-child; and moreover, to look a-head, and see whether he could get a peep at the flag-staff, and the church steeple; and just to turn one eye to windward, and try whether he could get a glimpse of the same white houses, though now grown down to sugar-plums, at which he had been looking all the morning? Charles looked as he was bade, and presently dried his tears; but kept a grave face, and a silent tongue, as he stood turned toward the selvage of surf through all the remainder of the run.

Arrived within a certain distance of the shore, the pilot brought up the ship, and ordered her anchor to be let go; and even before this time, surf-boats were making for the offing, to carry goods and passengers on shore. In a very few minutes after, one of the boats was close upon the ship's quarter; and Charles, whom the skipper had prepared to land with himself and the revenue-officer, had not failed to place himself in the main-chains before she came up, in order to leap into her as soon as she touched the side. The skipper was not long in following, nor the boat in reaching the shore. As she approached the outer edge of the surf, Charles felt

his breath leaving him again, from the appearance of danger which discovered itself, besides looking somewhat serious at the thought of the spray falling upon his cap and jacket; but, tossed as the boat was in her passage through the surf, and high and low as she wrought her course amid the waves which broke upon every side, such was the excellence of her build and management, that boat, and passengers, and cargo, reached the quay together, all safe and dry.

From the quay, the skipper carried Charles direct to the office of the Commandant, persuading himself that by this step he should best and the most expeditiously put him in the way to be forwarded to Graham's Town, and this with that security and certainty which would best fulfil his promise of punctuality to Benjamin the Jew; as well because the Commandant was himself an Englishman, and because, in virtue of his office, he was a person both efficient and responsible. The Commandant received with some surprise so young and solitary an emigrant into the new colony, and listened with compassion and curiosity to all that the skipper related of his adventures; but, as it happened, to the great delight of Charles, that this functionary was aware of a small party proceeding, with wag-

gons, that very afternoon, from Port Elizabeth to Graham's Town, he detained him only to mend the dinner that he had already made on ship-board, with a large plate of apple-pie; after which, making him a present of a rix-dollar, and engaging the party to take him free of charges, and with the greatest attention to his safety, he shook hands with him, and wished him a speedy meeting with his friends. The skipper had previously taken a kind parting, and bade the goot God to bless him! The party consisted of a Dutch farmer and his sons, and an English serjeant of infantry; but none of these, nor even the Commandant himself, had any information of the name of Hoyland.

Charles's little sea-chest being placed in one of the waggons, and himself seated upon it, the team of twelve black oxen, cross-bred from Holland and England, and beautifully matched, and governed by a whip of which the thong and lash were thirty-five feet in length; all this began to move over the sand-hills and low bushes which skirted the sea; the Dutchman, from time to time, calling out, to his oxen "Trae, trae;" and the docile team demanding but little further attention. The journey, thus far, reminded Charles of his progress with the Land-drost, and of its melancholy adventure, though the country, in this

instance, presented, for the most part, a very different scene. The lofty mountains, and steep and narrow passes, which, on the former route, the waggons had been obliged to ascend almost immediately upon leaving Cape Town, were not here to be discovered; for, though the range continues eastward, it here lies further inland. Charles had soon occasion, also, to see, that though the trees, and flowers, and birds, and wild beasts were generally the same as in the western districts, yet, here, there were many novelties, even of these sorts, agreeing with the new situations, high and low, dry and moist, rocky and sandy, and the various soils. Leaving the sand-hills at their backs, they crossed, for two miles or more, a belt, which winds with the coast of Albany or Zureveldt; and which the Dutchman told him was very fertile; and then entered upon a wide expanse of barren land, constantly, though gradually, ascending from the sea; where, as the waggons advanced, he often got down, to walk by their side, and to run into adjacent ploughings; and where, as they told him was constantly the case, he could pick up sea-shells which the plough had restored to daylight, and which remained in perfect preservation. For twelve hundred geographical miles northward, or twenty degrees of latitude, the

level of the surface of this extremity of Africa, as they told him, kept uniformly rising above the level of the sea; so, that while on the east and west, this continent narrows, toward the Cape, as we see it in our maps, it descends, under the same parallels, lower and more low, as to its general level, in spite of the ranges of mountains which spring up from it; and every where presents, both by its figure, and by its soils and fossils, and in spite of the beating of the ocean upward, against the southern shores, the appearance of a region from which that ocean has gradually retired, and is still gradually retiring. Aloes, geraniums, splendid heaths, and the sour-grass, with a reddish tinge, were spread over the ground, but only in patches, and guinea-hens, and certain species of bustard, showed themselves in little flocks; till, at length, the same sun, which, in the morning of this day, Charles had seen throwing gold from the east, as it rose above the ocean, sunk down rapidly behind the highlands in the west, filling all the air with a crimson hue, purpling the distant hills, and firing with a richer hue the scarlet geraniums, the glossy leaves of the evergreens, and the gorgeous branches of flowers hanging in profusion upon the coral-trees; and, in the earlier part of the day, not the smallest of the pleasures

that he received, had been that of hearing and seeing, once more, his old and useful friends the Honey Birds. But, now, the travellers having gained the top of the deep banks of a small stream, (both banks and stream almost wholly concealed by shrubs and flowers,) they unyoked their oxen for the night; and, after a supper of the venison of the spring-buck, and the flesh of several guinea-hens, and other species of game, (all admirably dressed by the Hottentot man-cook, and all relished, because of their dryness, with sheep's fat,) composed themselves to sleep, either in the waggons, or upon the ground. The night had a brilliant moon; so that the birds of the peewit species, or, by the Dutch variation, *keewit*, were constantly crying on the wing, as is their practice on such nights; while, when the sky is darker, they reserve themselves to be the harbingers of sunrise. But, among those, and other lulling sounds, were also to be heard the yelpings of the jackals, (such as puppies make when they are beaten,) and the howlings of the hyenas, kept at a distance and in fear, by the equally dismal howlings provoked by their approach, among the dogs of the party.

At day break, the oxen were again yoked, and all the travellers in motion; but Charles knew

little of this change, because, stretched in his waggon, his exhausted spirits, and, what he now thought, his satisfied expectations, had both required and encouraged the soundest and most lengthened sleep. It was not without difficulty that he could be awakened, even at the place and hour of breakfast. He awoke, nevertheless, at length, and made a full and merry breakfast ; but this was the last epoch, for many a year, of every inward peace, except his innocence,—and well nigh the termination of his childhood !

The affliction which this day came upon him was even childish still, though it might have been viewed as an affliction by the grey head as well. It was single, and without consequences, or, at least, consequences that were in any degree serious ; but it was not forgotten before another, of the gloomiest kind, and of deep and lasting influence, assailed him ; so that, from the finish of this morning's breakfast, till many years thereafter, care sat upon his mind, and sorrow, more or less reasonable, dwelt in his bosom ! The terrors of shipwreck, the drowning of his father, the persecutions of the Vrouw, the wanderings in the woods, the eating of his green monkey, the storming of the Bushmen's craal, the flight of his little Bushman-girl deliverer and nurse ; the revolutions at Cape Town ; the riots and wounds

at the Malay festival; the delay at reaching Martha Hoyland, and the continued separation from his mother; all these things he had found to be afflictions, and all had either wrung from him his momentary tears, or returned, from time to time, to sadden his thoughts and recollections; to check the rising laugh, or stop the half commencing song. But these were griefs either short-lived in their sources, or irremediable in their nature, or without succour except in hope; hope, which often encourages a supine because confident dependence upon occurrences that seem to promise their coming without effort of our own, and that no effort seems capable of hastening. We believe that they will come; and we either know, or else erroneously believe, either that they will come without our seeking, or that the time for seeking is still distant. Charles hoped—Charles confidently believed—that he should one day see his mother, and his brothers, and his sister; but never yet had it seemed to him that those events were to be forwarded by himself, or else that the time for his own forwarding them had yet arrived! He swam upon an onward stream, and neither hoisted sail, nor put out an oar; at noon, at night, and at morning, he promised himself his arrival at one loved and

wished for bank; the current was his only hope, and this was weakened by no doubts; he saw the trees, the islands, and the hills continually recede behind him; he rounded point after point, and passed by rush and rush, in one unchecquered progress. All that he required, therefore, was time; and he could lie in the bottom of his boat, and (if neither memory nor impatience forced a tear) the time between could smile with joys, or waste in slumbers, just as the banks between were green with herbage, and even gay with flowers:—the haven would appear at last! But, from the day forward, of which we are now speaking, Charles became man and workman. He was to work out his own fortunes. He was to trim the sail, and bale the leak, and labour at the oar. And he rose to his new circumstances. The *child* forsook him; he became grave and thoughtful; he had a steady aim; he had a fixed desire, and an imperious duty. Hope took her more healthful form; there was nothing to be despaired of, but every thing to be toiled for. With toil, all might be accomplished; without it, nothing. Charles, therefore, became suddenly a man. To dwell upon irremediable griefs is as erroneous as it is unnatural; to sit down under remediable ones, is erroneous and unnatural also. Man was not made to mourn;

but to toil, even for his greatest happiness: to try always for the best, and to be patient always, but not nerveless, under the worst!

We have a sorrow, in the meantime, (still, for the most part, childish,) to relate as the sole one of this day; as the whole of all the tribulations with which the reader will become acquainted in the present chapter. Wrapped in a thick outer-coat of one of the Dutch farmer's sons, Charles, without changing any part of the dress in which he had left the coasting-vessel, and been presented to the Commandant, had slept warmly through the night, and risen up refreshed and happy. But now, (and especially at the joint suggestion of his new Africaner friends, and of the English serjeant, the latter telling him that it was no longer parade-day,) he proposed to employ some of the time which would necessarily be spent in yoking the oxen, and (for it was dawn, and the wild beasts were sleeping) in looking far and near for the strayed horses; in changing his clothes, as well as in bathing in the clear stream at hand. With this, too, went all things well, till, after arraying himself in his more ordinary gear, he proceeded, once more, to lay carefully and smoothly his blue jacket in his chest! From the Sunday (now four days past) when, at the recommendation of Mike O'Sullivan,

he had displayed his costume upon the deck of the *Pride of Dordrecht*, till the moment of this sylvan change, never had it occurred to him to seek the pleasure of feeling the twenty dollars which Brinah had sewed carefully beneath the lining of that jacket; and which Benjamin had charged him to be careful of, even as the warm blood of his heart, and as the apple of his eye! Often, indeed, on the Sunday evening, and throughout Monday, had his thoughts lighted upon those dollars, and even his mental eye made sparkling by the vision of their shining faces; but never had he thought it worth his while to haul out and unlock his chest, or burrow into its contents, only to feel, through the close-stitched lining, the hard and valuable deposit! On the next morning, now twenty-four hours ago, his ardent look-out for Martha Hoyland and her children, his eager questions to Mynheer Binkenshoecks; his wild intoxication, and fanciful excursions, while dressing himself for shore; his anguish when he thought the ship had put again to sea; his strained examination of the surf and coast, when restored to the belief that the port was really at his feet; his watchful station in the main-chains; his hurried leap into the surf-boat; his fears when entering the surf; his anxious walk to the Commandant's:

his disappointment, as to learning, even there, the residence of Martha Hoyland; his transport at a speedy journey; his regale upon apple-pie and a glass of Cape Madeira; his pleasure at the Commandant's, and even the skipper's, good words at parting, and the present of a rix-dollar: the bustle of a new departure; the countenances of new friends; the sinking of the waggon-wheels in the sand-hills; the picking up of shells; the sight of new birds and flowers; the promise and enjoyment of a venison supper, the drowsiness of evening, and the sleep of night: all and each of these things, (so momentous to his mind, and so crowded in their succession,) had been sufficient to make him take out, put on, and wear, his blue jacket, with its embroidery, and yet never feel, nor even think of, the twenty dollars which ought still to have been beneath its lining! Many a time, since the bounty of the Governor, and the honesty, and even liberality of the Jew, had made them his own, had he exulted in the possession of a sum of money, so extraordinary for his station and years, that nothing but a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, with all its incidents, its dangers, and his own actual sufferings, could have been likely to put it into any part of the jacket of a little lad like him; the child of a poor

farmer, and the brother of a poor ploughboy ! Many a time, too, had his wandering imagination, his kindling feelings, his human vanity, his frivolous desires, and his lofty moral virtue, alternately built castles, as to his application, in the whole, or dollar by dollar, of this all African fortune ! It was no small thing, that through the money of the Governor, and the handsome management of Benjamin, he was approaching the threshold of his godmother, not with the naked, blistered, ulcerated feet that had been cleansed and cured by the little Bushman-girl, nor in the rags and dirt which had been removed from him by Namal and Sambayana, but in as gay a suit of new apparel, or “boy’s clothing,” as ever was purchased in Monmouth-street, or ever adorned the waxen statue in a shop-window in Oxford-Street, or in Cheapside ; but it was still more, that he could approach that godmother herself, not with new clothes yet empty pockets, calling aloud for an immediate sixpence ! Martha Hoyland herself, no doubt, hardly thought that she had invited to Africa so well-dressed and rich a godson ; but, then, for Martha’s husband and children, what would they not think and say ? It was not his intention, however, to be author of a fruitless, and still less of a painful admiration. He would make

presents at Graham's Town, as he had made them at Cape Town. He would buy Martha a new shawl, and her husband a new hat; he would fill the children's laps with cakes and sweetmeats; and, if, as might happen, the poor things were without shoes, why, he would buy them shoes! He thought, too, of some eatables, and of some ornaments, for his own use; but, after all, these things were to cost but a small part of the twenty dollars. He should keep fifteen of them untouched; and Martha should send them to his mother, and should tell her to spend the whole of them for herself, and for his brothers and sister; or else to lay them out at once, and pay a ship to bring all the family to Africa! As for himself, he had been so taught to look to Martha Hoyland for the supply of all his wants; that the use of money, for any necessary of his own, never entered into his head.

But Charles, as he laid the jacket in his chest, gave way, at last, to the natural inclination for feeling the dollars in its lining; and the feeling but too soon betrayed, that there was nothing now contained in it either hard or heavy! A moment more, and his eyes were fixed upon the place of deposit; and behold it was cut open! Every dollar had departed, and there was no question but as to the how and

where? Charles's heart was in his mouth, and the tears standing in his eyes. Loudly he proclaimed to his companions the reality and the greatness of his loss. He had no suspicion of any thief on shore, nor did his fancy fix the robbery upon any particular sailor in the ship. He recollected, now, that when he took the jacket out of his chest, and put his arms into its sleeves, he thought it considerably lighter than when he exhibited on Sunday; but he was then too elate with his prospect of landing, and with imagining the news at Martha Hoyland's, to think for a second moment upon the circumstance. He did not believe that his friend Mike had been guilty of any thing beyond a childish vanity, and a silly ostentation, when he urged him to bring forth his jacket, and when he proclaimed the contents of its lining; but he felt assured that this had been the occasion of his loss; and he shared the blame between Mike, who had prompted him to the display, and boasted so much of his wealth; and himself, who had taken so little heed of the directions of Benjamin, and imitated so little the careful thoughts of Brinah!

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

From rank to rank, from name to name,
The fond inquirer trembling flew.

BURGER'S BALLAD OF LEONORA.

EXCEPT for the good, or at least the pleasure, which, by means of his twenty dollars, he had promised himself to heap upon his friends, and except for the vanities in which he had reckoned upon indulging; the robbery which had been committed upon him neither was, nor appeared to himself, of any real importance. It was mortifying, it was disappointing, but he never thought of it as ruinous. As to his approach at Martha Hoyland's, it only threw him back to what he had expected it to be when he first set forward to Cape Town, under the protection of the Land-drost. His baggage had been much heavier when contributed by Lady Pontefract and the society at the Government

House, than even under the provision of Benjamin the Jew, and even his pockets, at that time, had not been wholly empty; but still, in all the arrangements of that journey, he had never expected to appear before his godmother the affluent possessor of a whole twenty dollars! He had reckoned upon nothing then, but an entire dependence upon the hospitality of Martha Hoyland; and so far his situation was but the same at present. The twenty dollars, in the meantime, had encouraged an ambition, or fostered a pride, or awakened a vanity, which their loss had now thrown down; and, by the reverse which it had inflicted, he was not only made a more humble visitor than had seemed promised him, but he felt humbled in himself. The misfortune, however, was not useless to him; it gave him (though probably without his at all perceiving it) one lesson alike salutary and lasting, and more valuable than even the lesson of future caution; for it taught him that men must frequently submit to have their vanity checked, even where their necessities are satisfied; and to accept the fulfilment of their more essential wishes, without that accompaniment of superficial gratification which would have flattered their pride, as well as enhanced their pleasure. Now, the inexperience of the young very generally suffers

them to expect the arrival of everything just in the exact way they wish ; they would enjoy perhaps, not only the substance, but the ornament as well ; they would receive benefits, and yet be crowned with dignity ; they would be fed, and yet not be humbled ; they would ask favours, and yet feel as if they conferred favours ; they would have not alone what is needful for them,—but, at the same time, what the Scottish song calls—

“ The pride and the blather on’t ;”

and it is therefore that this check upon Charles’s calculations—this example of the taking away what would have been the most pleasing, and leaving before him only that which was the most serviceable, and least dispensable ; was a lesson salutary, and of a kind to be as permanent in its influence, as unperceived, or uninterpreted at its reception. We must learn to be often satisfied with what saves us from perishing, though it does not pamper us with sweets. Nature is bountiful, and yet reserved :—

“ Liberal, not lavish, is kind Nature’s hand !”

But Charles had certain other views of the matter, vain, perhaps, even yet, but still so allied to virtue, and so pardonable, as well as, no doubt so powerful, and so useful, among its

motives, that the virtuous reader will hardly fail to sympathize with him upon this part of his grief. He lamented, not only the loss of his means to confer pleasure and benefit, as he had intended; but the loss also of that consequent applause and esteem which his good deeds ought fairly to have brought to him. To be loved, and to be valued; to have credit for kind and beneficent dispositions, are objects of such honest and honourable ambition among mankind; they command for us so many returns of worldly service; they cover us with so much worldly lustre; and they procure for us so much internal joy and rapture, that the moralist would scarcely be a philanthropist, and scarcely even a moralist, who should tell us, that even these yearnings of our hearts have something selfish in their nature, and even minister to a pride which the cynic has no objection to see humbled! The power of conferring benefits is so godlike, and the incense of thanks and praise is so exalted, that there are anchorets, no doubt, who would challenge the use of the one, and prohibit the enjoyment of the other, in creatures so lowly as mankind; and tell us that it is well when we are denied the means of bestowing blessings, lest we should thus gorge our luxury, elate our pride, and puff up our vanity! But such mo-

ralists are reasonable and useful, only when they warn us that such vices may sometimes be the shadows—not the lights—in even benevolence and liberality; for those vices (be they so called!) are weaknesses and failings proper to the virtues which they may accompany, and of which they prompt the activity, and promote the ends. We should not be virtuous, were there not pleasure in virtue!

Charles lamented, then, (let us confess) not alone that he had lost the power of doing so many good and pleasant things around him; but that he had lost also the tangible title to a good name, and the source of incentive to a more lively affection, which his stolen money would have enabled him to bring. He had no doubt of a kind reception at Martha Hoyland's,—he had no doubt of his mother's, or of his brothers', or of his sister's love; but would it have been nothing to have added, perhaps, some warmth to both, (or at least to have drawn out the lively expression of it,) by a display, without room for doubt, of his own good disposition, and of his fond, and filial, and considerate remembrance? The means, in this present instance, had vanished; but let us not believe, that even here, Charles had that unqualified occasion of grief which he unthinkingly imagined! The visions of love and generosity,

himself the actor, had not floated in his brain, nor even thus abruptly passed away, without yet another lesson—without the exercise of those moral faculties which invited their use, and tutored their direction. He had revelled in the lesson of love and generosity; he had drank deeper of the liquor of their practice; and, if the sweetened chalice was now dashed from his lips, he remained with a longing for the draught, and with a heightened and practical disposition to pursue and to obtain its enjoyment! If the thoughts of the vicious tend to the performance of evil, so do the thoughts of the virtuous to the performance of virtue; and where the disposition is, the opportunity, to each, is apt to come!

And, supposing, too, that all these exterior appliances of goodness should be, through life, denied him; would he be still without his benefit and his reward? Verily, there is a reward for the virtuous, even if they are denied all worldly means of setting forth their virtue. They lose not nature's protection; they scarcely lose the applause and love of men. They "wish the good they cannot do;" and, even if men, ignorant of their hearts, neglect them, it is their's to be "their own exceeding great reward." Grievous and unequal, indeed, would be the condition of the feeble among mankind, if they shared in

none of the advantages of native virtue ! Grievous and unequal, indeed, would be the condition of the poor and the powerless, if they shared in none of the delights attendant upon the elegant, the tasteful, the liberal, or charitable enjoyments, of wealth and influence and strength ! But they share always in all that nature gives, and often in all that man ; and they are seldom wholly shut out from positive performance, and therefore, from as positive praise. The disposition to virtuous and generous deeds is a glow and a soothing to the heart ; and even the sigh, or the real regret, at inability, have the merit and the reward of virtue. Nor is the whole of this internal or unseen. The same disposition imprints exterior beauty, and wins men the affections of the virtuous. The disposition to virtuous and generous deeds imprints the exterior countenance, and speaks in the voice, and lightens in the eye ; and the world is wholly neither deaf nor blind. The generous and the virtuous will sometimes, at least, be discovered, and sometimes loved, in spite of their incapacity to do generous or virtuous deeds ; and even their incapacity will not be total. Great things to the great, and small things to the small ; and, in the performance of virtuous and generous deeds, the enjoyment (to the performer) flows not

so much from the greatness of the deed, as from the greatness of the desire. These virtuous dispositions, too, at their lowest influence, give health and peace ; and here is, besides, a passive form of benevolence and generosity, of which the exercise and the rewards are commonly accessible to all. It suggests to men, if they can do no good, at least to do no harm !

Charles could recollect nothing precisely, as to the time or manner of the despoiling of his jacket of its embedded dollars ; but he could easily understand the readiness with which it might have been effected upon the Sunday evening, when, upon Mike's boast, and while he was himself busied in changing his dress, and somewhat enchanted with the praises and compliments of the crew, the garment was passed from hand to hand, and only returned to him at the last moment, as he became impatient to complete the deposit in the chest, and to turn the key. The sergeant of infantry, with whom he was now travelling, strongly advised, that upon his arrival at Graham's Town, no time should be lost in "reporting" his loss to the superior of the Commandant at Port Elizabeth, by, or through which latter, he was certain, the *Pride of Dordrecht* would be embargoed, the crew mustered, and the Dutch skipper interrogated ;

and the Dutch farmer was of opinion that the shortest method would be to get a letter written to that skipper, Mynheer Binkenshoecks, to whose care, as he justly remarked, it would have been wiser if the Jew Benjamin, and his sister Brinah, had originally consigned the money, instead of trusting to the poor and petty contrivance of sewing it into a jacket! No one thought it possible for Charles to be carried back, at the instant, over the wilds which already separated him from the port; nor did any one encourage him, in reality, very greatly to hope, either from returning, or from writing, or from reporting, or from the aid of Commandant or skipper, the restoration of his missing money. They suspected, in short, and as they frankly told him, that it had been divided among the thieves, and probably spent, by this time, among the brandy-shops and slop-sellers around the harbour. Charles believed, without hesitation, in a total loss; and throwing himself upon his face, in the waggon, his sleeves soaking in his tears, he cried over his misfortune till he fell asleep; indifferent to the jolts of the vehicle, the cries of the driver, the landscape around him, and the shots fired at gnoos, hart-beasts, and spring-bucks. Toward evening, however, he began to forget his troubles; a dinner

of venison and fish had recruited his spirits; he walked, or amused himself, with the dogs, or along with his companions, before, and behind, and upon each side of the waggons, which at the quickest rate moved no faster than three miles an hour; and, at night, he slept as soundly as if no disaster had occurred. He had thought, while yet awake, only of his speedy arrival at Martha Hoyland's, and of the news which he made himself certain of hearing of his mother; or, if a transient recollection returned to him, it was but to make him say, "Martha shall write, and tell mother, and John, and James, and Mary, that I would have sent them the money if I had had it;—but, then, what is the use of that? How do I know that they will believe me? and, besides, how differently they would have looked, and what different words they would have said, if they could have seen the dollars in their laps, instead of only reading that I had the inclination to send them!"

Early the next morning, the sergeant, whose destination was Bathurst, the easternmost of all the colonial settlements, quitted the party of the waggons, at a Dutch farm where he found himself able to hire a horse for himself, and a horse and man to bring his beast; first repeating his recommendation to Charles, not to fail of

“reporting” his loss ! The waggons kept their way toward Graham’s Town, where, however, they did not arrive till two days afterward. Charles’s joy, when from the hills that, upon this side, overlook the valley in which it lies, he beheld, at first the smoke from its chimneys ; then its churches, its barracks, and the roofs and sides of its houses ; and when, winding along the road below, he saw, at last, the signs of its inns, and the windows of its shops ; Charles’s joy and agitated spirits, at this long-sought for event of his young life, shall be left to the reader’s sole imagination of their expression and intensity !

It was, nevertheless, at an hour after his arrival in Graham’s Town, that began all the heavier and more lasting of the boy’s subsequent afflictions. The Dutch farmer discharged the duty which he had undertaken, by safely presenting, according to his promise, to the Commandant at Graham’s Town, the orphan passenger by the *Pride of Dordrecht*, with the name of the English family he was in search of ; not omitting to make mention of his loss, and of the Governor’s bounty, which had furnished the money ; as also to state, that nothing now remained to the poor child but his chest and its contents, and the rix-dollar which had been given to him by the officer at Port Elizabeth.

Here, as at the place last-mentioned, Charles was received with kindness; and the Commandant, after listening to all that the child could tell him, respecting his notions of the place of abode of Martha Hoyland and her husband, immediately set about inquiring, both officially and in the town, what was known of any settlers of that name. Charles was thunderstruck, no less than agonized, that even the first person he saw in Graham's Town should not so much as have heard of Martha Hoyland, his own godmother; but the Commandant, though he could make nothing, that night, of the entire story of Hoyland and his farm, and the lions and the elephants that frequented his kitchen and his garden, yet bade the trembling traveller to hope for better news on the following day; and, in the meantime, sent him to bed in his own house, where, however, the anxious boy passed only one of his few nights of almost sleepless perplexity and apprehension. All that the Commandant could tell him, from his accounts of these stories of wild beasts, in the letters of his godmother, was his conjecture, that the family must have been planted in some one of the very newest settlements, at a distance up the country: "We have no lions nor elephants," said he, "to visit us in Graham's Town, nor to roar in our streets,

nor look in at our shop-windows. Long ago they have taken their leave of the neighbourhood of our noise and smoke !”

The morning came, and the noon and evening ; and still nothing could be heard of the name of Hoyland. Charles thought every messenger tardy, and every inquiry imperfect. Trusted, alone, into the streets, he ran to every inn, and every shop, and asked all the passengers and market-people, and tried the sentinels at the gates. Not a tongue could talk to him of Martha Hoyland ! Even the Hottentots, and Bosjesmen, and Caffres, several of each of whom he saw about, and with whose appearance and broken speech he was more or less familiar, could teach him nothing. The English were unacquainted with Martha Hoyland ; and when Charles and the Dutch, and the Hottentots, and the Bosjesmen, and the Caffres, had all made themselves reciprocally understood, the answers from the whole were every whit as hopeless ! Wearied, dispirited, and weeping, and everything but entirely broken-hearted, Charles returned to the Commandant's, and confessed the ill-success of even his own exertions. Sometimes, (both from his English respondents, and amid the various hearing and various jargon of the rest,) a momentary belief, on both sides, of

the recollection of that, or of a similar name, had given him a flush of joy, and made his pulse beat thick and strongly; but everything had soon and uniformly sunk down again, to doubt, to contradiction, and despondence!

Even the Commandant himself was near despairing. Toward the close of the day, he carried Charles to the Lieutenant-Governor, whom the latter found wearing the Windsor uniform, and who condoled with earnestness the English orphan's situation; and desired, though in vain, his secretary to search anew among the lists of settlers. A notice of Charles's loss had been sent, by a Hottentot Yager, to Port Elizabeth, the day before; and this was all that could be done, upon that subject, for the present. As to the rest, the Lieutenant-Governor encouraged a hope, that through further efforts the Hoylands might still be found; observing, more particularly, that as market-day was on the morrow, (when so many country-people would come into town from so many directions, and so many of the towns-people be about,) a favourable chance would then offer for inquiry; and that even the bellman might be employed, to cry the name of these settlers, and of the child, and to tell a little of his story to the crowd; all of which, sooner or later, might help the parties to the discovery

of each other : “ In the meantime,” (he finished,) “ in so singular a case, you will make me answerable, Mr. Commandant, for what expenses may occur. The young emigrant is a subject of the Crown ; and, since, in this remote tract of the empire, he has lost his natural father, and is cut off from his mother, and has not found his godmother, we must make him find, as well as we can, that he has godmother, and mother, and father, in the servants of the King. We should otherwise but ill fill up the place of the common father of his people !” Charles was soothed by so tender a reception, and exhilarated under his confidence restored ; and slept calmly till the market-morning, exhausted with his previous cares, and more than satisfied with the approaching prospect. Awaking, however, early, he hurried into the market-place, before the bell had rung for commencing business, and almost before any of the country-people had arrived with their fruits and flowers, and horses, and cattle ; or any of the towns-people, to show their knives, and beads, and broad-cloths.

The Lieutenant-Governor had advised that the bellman should not receive his orders till toward ten or eleven o’clock in the day ; and that, in the meantime, the question should be asked among all those settlers and farmers, Dutch as

well as English, who were known to be best acquainted with their respective districts; a duty which the Commandant did not omit to see fully discharged, though without the least success. Charles, too, was busy, and with the same ill-fortune, in his attacks upon all he met, to tell whether Martha Hoyland lived anywhere near their respective places; till at length the multitude which thronged the market somewhat abashed his confidence, and endless negatives repressed his ardour, and numerous novelties and sights half diverted his attention.

The morning was fine; and if, even the day before, the streets and esplanade, and other open spaces, had appeared to him in no small degree alive with passengers, business, and amusements; he had not, now, sufficient eyes to gaze upon all that was to be seen within the precincts of this infant and still rural city.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

— A happy rural seat it was,
Of various view.

MILTON.

BUT, the town being now thus full, and no information even yet obtained, the black bellman was instructed in his story, and sent, with his shouting throat, and clamorous metal instrument, into every quarter of the market; and Charles (too deeply interested in the discoveries which this important person was intended to make, or to cause to be made, to wait in privacy the result of all the bustle he was to occasion,) hung closely to his side, and thus enabled the fluent Mozambique to add many a striking, and even many a pathetic touch, to his short but numerous harangues. “O yes! O yes!” he would begin, according to the English ceremony of his office; but, presently, pointing to his companion, or

setting him upon his shoulder, "Here," he would add, "is the fatherless child himself, without a friend in all the world till he finds his own godmother, Martha Hoyland, who lives somewhere among the lions and the elephants! Who knows Martha Hoyland, and her husband, and her three children; and will tell the noble Commandant where to send this poor fatherless child, by name Charles Laleham, and just arrived in these parts from England, to find his godmother, to feed him?" In this case, as before, many attempts were made among the crowd, to ascertain the exact names of the parties mentioned, and many promising suggestions of the desired communication were begun; but all to no final benefit, through any actual knowledge of the Hoylands. Several tongues, in all the languages, expressed a momentary persuasion that they could give the answer wanted; but each, after inquiry and explanation, grew silent, and left it only to a shake of the head, or pitying look, to conclude with an acknowledgment of total ignorance of the being of any such settlers as Hoylands! But, if the crowds knew nothing of the Hoylands, they did not know the less of human wants and charities. Charles, and the Negro, for his use, were laden with gifts and alms. Some gave him eggs, and others fruit,

and others flesh and fowl ; some, copper stuivers, and others silver pieces ; and even the Caffres, (generally more fond to ask than give,) made him carry away, in his hands, a finely-plaited *basket* of curds.

Groups, in the meantime, were continually forming and dispersing, formed of Dutch boors and English settlers, in junction or apart ; the individuals discussing with each other, whether this or that name could be meant, or this or that family answered the description, or this or that place could contain, or had contained, the homestead wanted for the boy ? No solicitude, however, was it ever so heartfelt ; no memory, was it ever so strong ; no research, was it ever so eager, seemed to forward the end in view ; and the market was thinning, and the unsold goods, and fruits, and cattle, were removing and driving off, and the bellman had ceased his proclamations ; and yet nothing had been learned. Charles, under the burden of his gifts, was still light of limb, compared with the heavy heart within him !

It was, now, however, when every chance seemed to have closed, that the broad light of day appeared to flash at once over the dark landscape. An English settler pursued the bellman and the orphan down a long street, which led

from the market-place to the Commandant's, whither both the latter were on their way, to relate the want of every immediate discovery; and when the panting islander reached the objects of his errand, he told them that he knew Martha Hoyland and her husband as well as he knew himself, and that they were living on a pleasant farm, upon the other side of Bathurst! It was true that it was a period of three years since he had ceased to be their neighbour, and had fixed himself in the opposite direction to Graham's Town, besides a twelvemonth's absence at Cape Town, whence he had lately come back to the eastward; but they were industrious and thriving when he last saw them, and in high health and spirits; and he had even heard them speak of their expecting the Lalehams *out*, to settle near them; and expressly of Charles, Mrs. Hoyland's godson! Besides this, he had seen a settler, who had seen them, just before he left Graham's Town for Cape Town; and, at Cape Town, he had seen another, who had talked with a man, who had met another, who knew a farmer, who fell in with a Dutchman, who had a Hottentot herdsman, who had a brother, or a brother-in-law, who lived with a Scotchman, who told an Irish half-pay officer,—that though Hoyland's corn was a little the worse for rust, there were some

of the primest beasts upon his farm, of the whole country round ! To all this, he added, that there was a man at market, whom he knew well, whose farm was a third of the way to Bathurst, who would take the boy with him, and push him on, for the rest of the journey ; but, then, he had not spoken to the man about it yet, and the latter was now yoking his team, and *singing-out* for his parting glass ! Charles sprung away, with rapture, at this reward of all the day's endeavours, to the house of the Commandant, where the Englishman repeated his good news, which he told even a third time, upon being taken, by the Commandant to the Lieutenant-Governor ; while the Mozambique bellman, not without sympathy in the good fortune of the child, as well as pride in the happy influences of his united bell and tongue, obtained the honourable commission of hastening to the farmer who was to take the road toward Bathurst, and of begging him either to wait a few minutes for his friend, the Englishman, or to take the Commandant's house in his way out of town.

Everything, now, seemed so well ascertained, and so free from difficulty ; the inquiry for a distant settler was so simple an event ; and the answer obtained to the inquiry was so much to be expected in its nature, and was here so circum-

stantial in its detail ; and withal, the opportunity of forwarding the unfortunate and impatient boy that very evening was so very lucky ; that the Commandant and the Lieutenant-Governor had little left to do, besides congratulating each other upon the success of their mutual endeavours to promote the object which had now been obtained. They bestowed many thanks, and even a small reward, upon their English informant, and took his more particular account of the situation of Hoyland's farm, and its distance upon the other side of Bathurst ; nor was this wholly accomplished before the friendly waggon, (in front of which, conspicuous for the yellow handkerchief which bound his head, and for his silent but uplifted bell, stood the officiating Mozambique,) came rolling after its ten oxen, straight toward the house of the Commandant. The Englishman explained matters to his friend, who cheerfully undertook the fare to his own farm, and also to forward the boy to Bathurst ; premising however, that he knew nothing of the Hoylands,—as might easily happen, because he knew nothing of the whole country beyond that town, and scarcely anything of the town itself. Charles, whose pockets were full, (though not entirely with the most valuable metals,) and which the Lieutenant-Governor further enriched

with a silver dollar, gave all his eatables, and all his copper, to the Mozambique; and now that he thought want no longer threatened him, he even wished the Commandant to take the rest of what he had received in the market-place, and give it to the poor or sick; but the latter, upon the contrary, advised him to keep it in his pocket carefully, because some accident or delay might make him need it, even before he saw Martha Hoyland. Then, his chest having been placed in the waggon, he took the side of the farmer who drove it, in an ecstasy of spirits; in which the Lieutenant-Governor sympathizing, and willing to indulge it, as well as turn to a loyal account, reminded him, (as the farmer was throwing out his whip to the furthest *spann* of oxen, and the wheels beginning to move round,) that he, perhaps, owed his luck to the Government officers, and therefore, bade him wave his cap three times, and cry, "God save the King!" The cry was repeated, too, by the little crowd of mothers and sisters, and fathers, and brothers, which had gathered at the news of Charles's happy discovery, and of his departure by the waggon; and which mingled its rejoicings and shaking of hands with Charles, with its applauses of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Commandant.

Charles's new conveyance was still both

owned and driven by a Dutch boor, a circumstance which the more easily accounted for the unacquaintance of the latter with the English settlers and settlements in and about Bathurst, and especially upon its eastern side. Even the farm occupied by himself had been one of the most out-lying, and the most exposed to Caffre molestation, under the Dutch masters of the colony; built, and grazed, and ploughed, as it had been, in direct trespass upon the soil and rights of those plundered and persecuted natives; while with the precarious and harassing tenure under which, anciently, though not at present, it had consequently been held, the rude and desolate appearance of its house and appurtenances, (as Charles, upon reaching it found,) in every respect agreed. The appearance, too, of this boor, corresponded, from the first, with the dwelling to which he was returning; for, upon the top of a fine manly figure, with a bright black eye, darting fire and animation, a noble forehead, and a black bushy beard, he wore a slouched hat which nearly covered his face, and general habiliments equally coarse in texture and slovenly in adjustment; carrying upon his shoulder, when he left his waggon, a gun of the largest size, and an enormous powder-flask, formed of a bullock's horn, highly polished.

The boor spoke but little English; and his head, as he drove his waggon, and as he looked after the horses, and oxen and sheep, which he had either purchased in the market, or brought away unsold, was full of calculations upon his profit and loss, and upon his bargains and sales to come. Charles, therefore, when the waggons had ascended the high hills upon the eastern side of Graham's Town, and when they were on their descent toward the plains and hollows, toward the Great Fish-river, gladly took to his feet, to sport along the road, and chatter with the Hottentots and slaves. But this freedom arrived late. The road had wound for some length along the valley; and when the ascent commenced, the setting sun was already pouring upon the hills and upon the valleys, and upon the endless variety of shrubs which covered them, the richest flood of orange light. The air, in the meantime, was of the balmiest softness; the eastern sky without the appearance of a cloud; the shrubs were dispersing a fragrance which became increased, if the men or cattle disturbed or trod upon their branches, or if the wheels of the waggon, encroaching upon the sides of the half-beaten road, crushed them as they went, and expressed their juices. Along the grass, between the bushes, there sometimes ran

two or three *dasses*, and across the road a *ratel*, the former from their supper of leaves and herbs, and the latter from a meal of honey. From the bushes themselves came the song of the Cape canary, and the single notes of many other birds; and upon the slope of the hills, and on the plains below, were bush-bucks and other antelopes grazing, sometimes solitary, and sometimes in herds; while in the bottom, and close to the streams that watered it, were blue groups of gnooks, feeding as they moved; and herds of hundreds upon hundreds of cows and oxen, lowing as they answered the shells blown to them by their owners, and as they walked slowly to the kraals in which they were to be sheltered for the night. On the way, too, the party met, at greater or less intervals, a few travellers bent homeward like themselves, but to whom Graham's Town was the point in view. In a short time, the moon, visible before the setting of the sun, became the ruling luminary; and now, except for the fitful cries of the wild animals, the gentle grinding of the wheels, and the occasional laughter, and occasional songs, of the slaves and Hottentots of the party, nothing could surpass the stillness of the night! The songs were of love, of war, and of the chase; and some of them such as the Hottentots had

learned of the Caffres, though these latter are less melodious singers than themselves. By the side, however, of a brook, the oxen were at length unyoked; the fires lighted; the supper eaten; and the beds of earth, or else of skins, betaken to by the travellers.

The forenoon of the following day brought the Dutchman to his farm. It lay among verdant hills, upon the hither side of the Fish-river, but overlooking its transparent waters; such as, from space to space, formed pools in the otherwise dry but expanded channel. The homestead stood exposed upon the waste, a group of scattered and unsightly buildings, without enclosure of any kind. Its own exposed and lofty situation (so different from the hollow and even marshy dells, commonly chosen by the Dutch, not for their houses only, but for their towns also) had been originally adopted for safety from the Caffres; while its garden, for the advantage of water, was planted afar off. Close to a long building which formed the dwelling-house, Charles alighted, and was presently introduced to the Vrouw, with whom, at dinner, her husband consulted as to the means of sending him to Bathurst. It was to Charles's sorrow that he found there was no chance of going further the same day; and that his only choice

was to console himself with the information given by the Vrouw,—that Diederick Cuyler, the lion-hunter, with his waggon, and some horses, and a pony, would stop at the farm the next morning, on his way from the upper country, homeward, and to the Caffre Fair, through Bathurst; and that she had no doubt of Diederick's willingness to help the boy on his journey, especially as the child had money enough with him, to give him a dollar for his trouble. To all her husband's inquiries, in the meantime, as to her knowledge of the Englishman Hoyland, or his farm, she replied with the most depressing negatives. Like himself, she knew not, nor had she heard of either. Even the account of the family, and of the direction in which they were settled, which the boor had received from his English market-friend at Graham's Town, afforded no help to their recollections!

Charles, who felt somewhat sorrowfully as to everything else that he heard upon this occasion, yet caught with pleasure at the mention of a lion-hunter and a pony. He was as curious as he was fearful upon the subject of lions, his adventure with a brace of which, in the woods near Blouveldt's, had never left his memory, and often brought back to him uneasy sensations; while, with respect to a pony, the very

few instances in which he had hitherto been placed upon the back of a horse, had made impressions of so opposite a kind to the former, that he dwelt, for even hours succeeding, upon the joyful probability of his riding, with Diederick's consent, upon the pony of the party, all the following day. Consoled in this manner, and sent early to bed, he slept as soundly as if he had been without a care.

Punctual in his arrangements, Diederick was at the farm at breakfast-time, where he listened with good-will to the proposal that he should take Charles with him to Bathurst. Diederick was the elder of two brothers, both of them renowned for lion-hunting; and who, as Charles discovered from the anecdotes related at breakfast, and of which he devoured every word, (almost to the neglect of his bread-and-butter,) had more than once saved each other's lives, in the course of their rencounters with the monarch of the forest. The lion-hunter was a man of still more attractive appearance than even the boor that entertained him, now that the latter was divested of his coarse garments, and large slouched hat; and the Vrouw told Charles, that Diederick's brother, Christian, was as tall, as strong, and as well-looking as the former, the elder of the two. Diederick was under forty years of age,

above six feet high, and of a remarkably intelligent and good expression of feature; but Charles fancied to himself that Christian must be still nobler and more beautiful to look at, when he heard talk of one of the occasions upon which, with the coolest and most exalted courage, he had rescued his brother from a danger in which an immediate and the worst event seemed to have become certain. One day, the brothers were upon their horses together, when Diederick marked, as he thought, the exact spot where he saw a lion couch in concealment; upon which he rode forward, intending to alight at a convenient distance for shooting at his prey. But he had mistaken the ambush of the lion, which, as he advanced, suddenly sprung upon him from behind a large stone, or mass of rock, and bore down both himself and his horse upon the earth. He lay senseless from the fall, and the lion sprung upon him again, and would doubtless have destroyed him on the instant; but that his attention was now caught by the approach of Christian, who, afraid of firing while too far off, lest he should miss his aim, and hurt his brother, came boldly up to both, as both were together on the ground, and shot the lion through the heart!

Diederick's replies to the intimation of his host, that the boy's journey to Bathurst was in

search of certain English friends, came upon Charles's ears far less agreeably, and almost quite as fearfully, as his tales of lion-hunting. He knew nothing (as he at first said) of the name of Hoyland, either at the town spoken of, or for miles around; and yet, upon further efforts to remember something of such settlers as these described to him, he thought, though still with doubt, that there had once been such, some fifty miles to the eastward of Bathurst; but that they had left their farm, he knew not how, nor when, and hardly for what place, but at a distance, as he half believed, still further up the country. In all this, however, as he professed, he might still be telling a wrong story; the Hoylands might still be living near to Bathurst, and even nearer than fifty miles; he might be mistaken, both as to the person, and as to the farm; and there was nothing that remained to be done, but to take Charles safely to that spot, and there inquire, of the people inhabiting it, what they knew of the friends whom he was seeking? Diederick's oxen had been baited in their yokes; the long whip resounded; and the waggon creaked over its departing wheels; while its master, cheerfully setting Charles upon his prize, the pony, and arming himself with his long gun and powder-horn, followed his team and servants, Charles by his

side ; and from whom the answers required of him never ceased, concerning lions and lion-hunting. The lion depends much upon water, both for the slaking of its own thirst, and for the invitation of drinking-places, to the grazing animals which are its food, and where it can hide itself, to seize upon them ; and Diederick related to Charles, that such was the strength of limb which the ravenous monarch possessed, that he has known one of them to go forty miles to drink, his track having been traced by his footsteps. Diederick knew nothing of the jackal, as the “lion’s provider ;” and he believed lions to be very capable of providing for themselves. He had heard and seen enough (he said) of yelping jackals ; but not as the particular acquaintances of the mighty lion. The jackal, (or sha’cal,) we may remark, is the tropical substitute, upon the old continent, for the northern fox of the same region ; inhabiting the whole of Africa, as well as Syria and Arabia, and, the southern parts of Persia and India ; and throughout all those countries, too, of the jackal, wherever there is water, there are lions.

The road, taken by the travellers toward Bathurst, descended first toward the bed of the Great Fish-river, which it was necessary to pass. The day was hot, and, in any place denied the suc-

cour of the wind, the sun raged as with the heat of a furnace; but the sky and air were exquisitely clear, and the sea-breeze, blowing from the south-west, played freshly over the grass, and through the low shrubs, which, in circular patches, adorned the surface, and gave their fragrance to the atmosphere. Here, as in so many other of the sylvan scenes through which Charles had now passed in Southern Africa, everything was wild, and yet everything had that appearance which men suppose to result from human art. But it is the beasts of the field that, in these places, are the artists. Hour after hour, the European stranger traverses unending lawns, and rises and descends over undulating hills, green and smooth, and spotted, here and there, with circular breadths of shrubbery, clipped and low at the edges, and growing higher as they recede to their centres; and, here and there, also, are clumps of the large yellow-wood and coral trees, and of the evergreen oak of the Cape; and, incessantly, he half expects to discover, through some vista, or at the turn of some hill, or of some grove, the mansion to which all this park-like expanse of herb and wood belongs; alive, moreover, as it is, with herds of gem-bucks, or of hart-beasts, or of some other pasturing species! But all is the sole work, and single abode,

of nature and her furry species. It is nature which spreads the herbage and lifts the wood; as it is nature, also, which flats the plain, and raises the hill, and sinks the dell; and it is her four-footed natives and families alone, which shave the grass, and clip the trees, and round the shrubberies and bushes into circles. Of much of this, indeed, our own English fields and wastes supply similar examples. The quadrupeds, and likewise the birds, are everywhere the gardeners and farmers. They manure, and tread, and turn up the ground, and plant a thousand fruit-trees and flowering plants. The grazing of the quadrupeds, again, crops the grass, and keeps it short, and of an evenness of height, which could be as little explained as it might be expected, did we not take notice of the closeness and regularity with which they bite their vegetable viands; and did we not recollect that the lower they eat toward the roots, the richer and the sweeter are the stalks and blades. In browsing upon the young shoots of shrubs and trees, and especially upon such as, when better grown, are hard or prickly, they nibble, contrariwise, at the topmost points, thus checking their rise; and this in proportion as they are nearer to the outward edge of the shrub or clump, or more within the reach; so, that, in all, they encou-

rage a form approaching, every way, with more or less precision, to a circle, as well horizontal as vertical, or to a half globe, or hemisphere. We say, again, that examples of all this clipping, and shaving, and trimming trees and bushes into figure, (in which, as we see, neither our modern, nor our ancient gardeners are the sole adepts,) present themselves even in our own fields and wastes; and especially where the furze-bushes and holly-trees are frequented by our sheep and cows. Our holly-trees, indeed, are prickly only in self-defence against these hungry shearers; and their leaves, therefore, as we daily see, grow prickly only to such a height upon the tree as is within the reach of cattle! It is among the consequences, likewise, of this constant exposure to the browsing and grazing of so vast and various an assemblage of herbivorous animals as those of Southern Africa, (aided, perhaps, by the comparative dryness of the soil and air, which moderates the force of the production;) that this and some other countries, in their simply natural estate, display such spacious intervals of open ground, between their woods and single trees, the suckers and young growths being always so much exposed to removal by the constant working of such hosts of teeth! But these are the adaptations of nature, between her sur-

faces and soils, her animals and plants; and so possible was it for the garden in Eden to be beautiful, even as God “planted it,” and before “the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden, *to dress it, and to keep it:*” employments, by the way, for “the man;” which negative the imagination of those who teach, that the loss of Paradise was a loss of a life of indolence, instead of a fertile soil only, and of fairer fruits and flowers. But even without the hands of “the man,” Eden, like South Africa, might have afforded a garden arrayed in all that beauty of prospect, (as well as enriched with other endowments, including apparent and *real* cultivation,) of which we have now been speaking.

CHAPTER XL.

I cried aloud, and said, Where are those that I loved ; where are they ? And Echo answered me, Where are they ?

JACOBY.

WINDING, between the hills, down a declivity considerably steep, and in front of a prospect which made the approach magnificent, Diederick, his waggon, his horses, and his young guest, descended toward that part of the Great Fish-river where it receives the additional waters of the Cap. The tide was in, and the two rivers full to the tops of their banks ; a sight rather unfrequent in these regions, during the fine months of the year, when the channels of all the rivers of great width are more commonly dry, except for the deep pools which glitter in them here and there. The streams were alike and perfectly transparent ; and flowed amid the swells of verdant hills, sometimes overshadowing them with lofty evergreens ; and down-

ward the horizon finished with the wide Southern Ocean, roaring from wave to wave, and flinging its increasing surf. The sea-birds were pursuing the chace, up and down the surface of the stream; and carrying the fish they caught to their nests, among the varied hollows and projections of the mouldering sandstone rocks. On the sides and ledges of the same rocks, dasses and their broods were either running in great fright at the approach of the travellers, and disappearing in their holes; or else, in seats of conscious security, sporting from crevice to crevice, and from ledge to ledge, hiding and seeking with their small companions, sitting upon their haunches, or playing a thousand antics; with now and then a skirmish, a flaw of temper, or a trial of strength; a grin, and a blow with their cat-like paws; a fixed intent, for this moment, to conquer in battle; and, the next moment, a scampering away upon both sides, and nothing again thought of but gambols!

Ascending, next, a partial rise, upon the bank of the Fish-river, and embosomed, now, themselves, in the towering hills, they travelled under the scorching sky; and, dazzled with the reflected sunshine of the water, moved slowly upward, toward the Caffre-drift, or ford, they were to cross, and at which they had no sooner arrived, than

they dipped into the current. The tide, in the time which they spent upon the road, had completely fallen, and now was even about returning. Diederick had regulated his movements by his knowledge of the hours of high and low water; and delay was improper at the ford, because, soon after the flow, the depth and force of the element were sufficient to create more or less of danger. Charles, whom the heat of noon, and of the embosomed valley, had long since forced to resign his pony for the waggon, and even for the canvas which shaded, in part, the latter; awoke to behold, with mingled pleasure and alarm, the accustomed oxen take the water, and draw the waggon into the swiftest part of the stream. He grew more apprehensive yet, when, as it seemed to him, the oxen and waggon, arrived in the very midst, stood still, as if unable to make further progress; a fear from which he was not relieved, till, in spite of what he had thought his fixed position in the centre of the river, the opposite bank became visibly more near; the oxen, lifting their freed limbs from the shallower bed, dashed the spray before them as they went; the sounding liquid was left behind; and even the wheels began to ascend the dry and pebbly shore. It is a uniform delusion upon the eye, that the rapidity of the motion

in a river, either upward or downward, makes man or beast that is crossing it, appear to him or itself to be stationary.

Zureveldt, or the district of Albany, had been left behind, upon the western side of the river, and that of Bathurst, or the frontier of Caffreland, or Caffraria, under the Dutch, was now entered; but the town of Bathurst was yet far off. The district of Bathurst embraces the country which was ceded to the English by the Caffres, after their unsuccessful attack upon Graham's Town, in the war of the year 1819; the last, as it was lately trusted, that could occur between that people and the present owners of the colony. Zureveldt had long been contested between the Caffres and Dutch; and, in the year which has been mentioned, the former made a serious attack upon its new English masters. A serjeant of the Hottentot corps, returning, one evening, from patrole, fell in with a small party of Caffres; one of whom called to him, and gave him notice, in good Dutch, that the next morning, when the sun (pointing to the eastward) was at such a height, they would be in Graham's Town, and show its people what fair fighting was! The serjeant reported what he had heard; but the whole was treated as a Caffre jest. Fortunately, however,

an inspection of the military at the station had been previously ordered for that day; for the Caffres, about nine thousand in number, and true to their appointment, covered, at the hour they had said, the hills which encompass the town, nor was it till after some time, that they could be brought within the reach of the guns. When, however, the slaughter at length commenced, their flight was speedy; and they were forced to abandon the bodies of several hundred of their dead, both on the hills, and in the woods beyond.

Caffreland, therefore, at the present day, does not commence till upon the boundary of Bathurst, on one part of the line of which the English have built and occupied Fort Wiltshire, with barracks and other appurtenances; and under the guns of which, with a peaceful and admirable policy, they have established a Caffre fair, or market, which is holden upon two days in every week. Commerce, and the arts of peace, are thus called to the double task of improving and assisting, not one nation alone, but many of the west and north as well; and of promoting security to the settlements and settlers through the same medium. The Dutch, instead of seeking to exalt and conciliate the Caffres, hunted them exactly as they hunted the beasts of the same

regions; and the result was an incessant bloodshed, robbery, and devastation; the deepest hatred, and the conflict of the fiercest passions; upon the one side and the other. The English, by an opposite course, have sought to establish peace; and, while displaying their own virtues, they have found out those of the enemy. Settlers and soldiers unite in testifying to those good qualities and general merits of the Caffres which contrast with their faults. A traffic, amounting, annually, to the value, of, perhaps, fifty thousand pounds sterling, is even now pursued between the English and the Caffres, the latter of whom buy and sell again, to nations more remote; and this traffic, the commercial value of which is the least part of its importance, would be much greater than it is, did not a chief in the interior, hostile to the Caffres, and who boasts that he will ere long subdue everything between himself and the English frontier, maintain a line of exclusion, from Port Natal, north-westward, to Latacoo; and were not the Caffres still indifferent to almost every article of European production, save only beads and buttons. They have not yet discovered, like the Negro nations of Central Africa, the value of English needles; and a Caffre woman, who, nevertheless, sold some platted baskets for a shawl, had yet no

other use for the garment, than immediately to tear it into pieces, which latter she distributed among her companions at the fair, as wrappers for holding beads !

Charles had no sooner crossed the Fish-river, than even the herbage taught him to know that he was in a country of another surface and still better soil. The sour-grass, of a reddish hue, had disappeared; and he travelled amid the sweet pastures into which, at every risk, and by perpetual trespass, the Dutch farmers of the Zureveldt, except in summer, were formerly in use to drive their cattle, to feed at Caffre cost. The sweet-grass has a resemblance to the European *fiorin*, creeping and forming knots in the manner of that grass; but its continuance is short-lived and uncertain. Two days of rain will cause it to grow some inches, but, in twelve days more, it will have withered, and been dried up like chaff; so, that while Albany has the inconvenience of *sour-grass*, Bathurst is even threatened with no grass at all ! The general country, in the meantime, was still more beautiful, to Charles's eye, here, than in the portion which he had seen of Albany. The road to Bathurst lay through what appeared only one boundless park, except where it rather looked like pleasure-grounds. No shrubberies could have

more the air of accomplished art, than those which covered the banks of the delightful little river Cap. They glowed with flowers and berries of the brightest and most varied colours. The singular and gaudy *strelitzia-regina* grew there in richest luxuriance; and, high on the craggy hills, the chandelier-aloe expanded its sunny branches. The birds were gayer than the flowers, or more vivid from the quickness and multitude of their motions. The lory blazed amid the bright green leaves which waved as it alighted among them; and paroquets, in flights, and king-fishers, and woodpeckers, and *sprews*, and sugar-birds of a dark glossy green, reflecting the sun's rays, thronged in all their beautiful and dazzling plumages, and filled the eyes with rapture; while, to the ear, the song of the Cape canary, and the cooing of the pigeons, mingled with the short notes and whistles of whole flocks of others. They were watchful, in the meantime, of the chattering monkeys, and gliding snakes; or placed themselves habitually in situations where they were free from danger.

Presently, the country spread abroad more widely. Scattered over the green lawn, dark clumps of lofty and thick trees arose from space to space, and clusters of the tall and light *mimosa*, with its balls of fringe, composed of yellow

blossoms, more yellow for the shining sun ; and the white stems of the somewhat palm-like euphorbias, towering thirty feet in height. Beyond these, too, were the gentle tintings of the distant mountains, relieved by the deep azure of a sky in Africa ! Antelopes, in herds, and in all the African variety, grazed upon the herbage, or chewed the cud under the shelter of the trees ; and once, during the morning, Charles had sight of a troop of ostriches, fifteen or twenty in number. At the sound, however, of the wheels of the waggon, the birds, distant as they were, hurried away from their feeding-ground ; half running, and half flying, and stretching foremost their small heads, and camel-like long necks¹.

A country so fertile and so lovely, so full of game, and so adapted to pasture and to cultivation, was never parted with by the Caffres but with grief. They had an eye for its beauties, as well as a dependence upon its products ; and even now, when they travel through it as the land of another, they sigh to remember that it was their's in their infancy, and in the times of their fathers ! Many names of places, in the Caffre language, continue monuments either of their

¹ The name of *ostrich* implies " camel-bird."

admiration, or of their affection, for the scenes which they distinguish.

The Caffres, in the meantime, as we have said, and as parts of our story have given reason to believe, suffer, and have suffered, from the Europeans, only what themselves inflict and have inflicted upon the Bosjesmen or Wild Hottentots, who seem the really ancient possessors of the whole of this extremity of Africa, from east to west, and to have been driven westward by bands descending southward along the coast; as, now, the nations in the train of Chaca are threatening to overrun the Caffres upon the one side, while the Europeans compress them upon the other. The more ancient names of places are still Bosjesman or Hottentot; as also are the monuments (the rude monuments which have existence) of every other kind. If, looking to their complexion especially, the Bosjesmen are of the same race with the Chinese, the historical adventures which, at some distant era, planted them thus far from their native seats, might furnish, if discoverable, an interesting chapter in the annals of mankind; and one in no respect more difficult than that of the arrival of the Caffres themselves, or, in the respective countries, that of the populations of Polynesia and Australia.

The tragedy of our pages, in the meantime,

presses closely upon us for admission ; and, divert ourselves as we will, with topics which delay its arrival, the black moment, but for very little longer, will be deferred ! The travellers encamped at night upon the plains that we have been describing, and pursued their way, at the earliest morning, toward the town of Bathurst. Within two or three hours after starting, they reached the deserted dwellings of a town that was for some time projected by the English government, and denominated Fredericksburg ; and was also celebrated, in the country, for its neighbourhood to the scene of a very fatal issue of an elephant-hunt. The mention of an elephant-hunt made Charles as eager, for good part of the day, to hear what Diederick could tell him about elephants, as he had before been eager about lions ; and the same story made him look about, too, as he went, to see if no elephant would show himself to the waggon. But Diederick was less fond of hunting elephants than lions, though eminently skilled in both ; and Charles, as the distance from Bathurst became less, grew once more too impatient for the discovery of Martha Hoyland, to let even the elephants engage him long. From Diederick, all his efforts could gain no answer respecting his godmother, more satisfactory than had been given at the boor's ; but he fixed him,

at the least, to this admission, that Martha Hoyland might possibly be living, even within five hundred miles of Bathurst, and yet the farm have remained unknown to Diederick !

Charles was again upon the pony, and had ambled very comfortably, for some time, by the side of the boor and his Hottentots ; when, just upon the top of a slope which descended to the small river, that, a few miles below, almost surrounds the site of Fredericksburg, he passed the edge of a clump of trees and brushwood, the partial shadow of which he found exceedingly agreeable. At the same moment, Diederick, and those about him, drew up to the waggon, to lock one of its wheels, and to steady the oxen, for the descent ; and, at the same moment also, a violent rustling among the leaves and branches scared Charles and his pony ; the latter suspecting a lion, which has a decided taste for horseflesh ; and the former an elephant, which was the latest monster in his imagination ! A second moment had not arrived, before the pony was galloping down the hill, upon the side of which Charles, who had lost both bridle and seat, was rolling, and toward the bottom of which the pony himself fell ; just in time to receive Charles, as he turned over, and save him from an actual tumble into the stream, and upon its

rocky bed. A quagga and her foal, terrified in the brushwood at the passing of the travellers, and showing their gay stripes, and lifted heels, as they broke away, had been the cause of the mischief, such as it was, but were now speedily out of sight; and, while Diederick, at the head of his fore oxen, led them gently down the steep, a couple of Hottentots sprang over the sward like panthers, to pick up the pony and its rider.

The pony was unhurt; and some slight bruises, a bloody nose, and a few scratches upon the hands and face, earned among the bushes and jagged stones, were all the fleshly injuries sustained by Charles. The Hottentots washed him in the stream below, and stopped the bleeding with cold water; and Diederick was soon at his elbow, to feel that his bones were safe, and to remove his terror, and persuade him to bear his wounds without tears and crying. Assured that there was no elephant, nor even so much as a lion, at the top or at the bottom of the bank, and even prevailed upon to lift up his head, and look around him, for conviction, he was soon reinstated in composure. He had no wish, however, to re-mount the pony; but sat for many hours in the waggon, pensive, and heightening the melancholy with which he remembered his fall, with dismal thoughts about the Hoylands, in regard

to finding of whom, and their farm, he was half-willing, in his present mood, almost to despair.

But, winding, still, as through an ample park, and lighted by a gorgeous moon, reflected in the waters of the Cowie; the travellers arrived, at length, within sight of the new, but yet half deserted town of Bathurst, which, like its outstage, Fredericksburg, the English authorities began with the design of making this district the seat of the Lieutenant-Government, but abandoned under another plan. The English capital, unlike the towns of Dutch original, was to have risen upon an elevated surface; and its few houses, actually built, are generally detached from each other, and stand between trees, and surrounded with gardens, upon two undulating hills, presenting the appearance of English cottage-villas. The principal edifice was intended for the court-house, but is used only as a school. More beauty, nor more picturesque effect, can hardly be imagined, than belongs to Bathurst, when gazed at up the river; and, its front commanding a deep glen of the richest verdure, the view is bounded by the ocean. It was now the twenty-first day of December, or the summer solstice, or longest day, in this Southern Hemisphere;

but yet the sun had long descended, and the moon long risen, before Charles was thus near to Bathurst. There were clouds in the heaven, which even increased the beauty of the moonlight; and sheet-lightning (incessantly, and with vividness and breadth) was playing in the western horizon. The silence of the air, from time to time, was broken by the cries of night beasts and birds, but not of such as were either terrible or mischievous. Those of the peewits came the oftenest upon the ear. When the travellers had drawn nearer still, they heard the gush and babble of the current, where it was divided by small rocks, or as it escaped by a stony bed; and, after this, the splash, and call, and whizzing of the wings, of water-fowl that rose either from the river, or from its sedgy borders. Over everything fell the silver moonlight.

The waggon, and those that accompanied it, entered the main street of the town, where every light was extinguished, and where all was still the deepest silence, except for the barking of two dogs that lay at the doors, and which was returned with interest by those of Diederick; and except for the candle of the landlord of an inn, who was parting with his latest guest, and finally shutting up his house for the night. This was the inn where Diederick proposed remaining till

the morning, and where he proposed depositing Charles, to make his further way, as he might be directed, in search of the settlers, Hoylands. The horses were presently led to the stables, and the oxen to the stalls; and the waggon left standing in the street, with the dogs within it, or beside it.

But, arrived at the kitchen-fire, and Charles's story related to host and hostess, what was the affliction of the first, at all that he could still hear of the objects of his search? The landlady *thought* that she had heard tell of such a man as Tom Hoyland; but, then, his place, if she had really heard of him, and if it were the same, was far, very far, away, and nearer to Somerset than to Bathurst; and, again, she *thought* he was somehow broken up, and his farm sold; and, in short, she knew nothing about the matter, and could help the poor child with no information! In the morning however, when people were about, she dared to say that some one would drop in, who might know better than she; or, indeed, there was Mr. Jenkins, about two miles out of Bathurst, who removed thither from a farm near Somerset the year before, and might be able to give some account of the boy's godmother and her husband. Nothing was left, therefore, for Charles, but, sorrowfully, and with apprehension, to take his supper, and go to bed; Diederick giving him a

heartly good bye, because he meant to proceed homeward at a very early hour in the morning; and Charles telling Diederick that he hoped they should meet again, and see a lion together; for that, if the latter were at his side, he should not be afraid of twenty lions, and would himself kill a dozen. He also begged that Diederick would tell his brother Christian how much the English boy, Charles Laleham, longed to see him; and how much he praised him and loved him, for shooting the monstrous lion that was going to kill Diederick and his horse!

In the morning, Charles slept till it was late, and, when he rose, the rain was descending in torrents, and the water, tearing and overflowing the channel in the midst of the street, was rushing to pour itself into the river. The enchanting looks of Bathurst were departed; the windows showed only what was dark, and wet, and dreary; and it was even long before a solitary creature showed itself in the street, in the shape of a small terrier, which (the rain-drops upon its hair, and shaking its ears, and, every now and then, one of his tanned feet) crossed, from an opposite shelter, into the doorway of the inn. Charles, upon such a morning, though in Africa, was glad to eat his breakfast by the fire.

The landlady was abundantly kind to him;

or, at least, she intended so to be. She pitied his lone situation, and was distressed at the history of his orphanage. She grieved to think how little his poor mother knew of all his misfortunes. She found out a likeness between himself and one of her own children, which had died at his own years. She asked every possible question as to his birth, his father, and his mother; the farm in Derbyshire; the widow Dove-dale; the lord and lady of the manor, and all the neighbours round; and she drew this moral from his entire relation, that it was a pity people did not stay at home, and know when they were well off! "It wrung her heart," she said, "to see a dear little boy, the very picture of her own dear Jeremy, wandering about, nobody knew where, and without any body's knowing what was to happen to him; and, as to leaving England, she herself had never repented of her choice but once, and that was ever since! Ah! my dear little outcast," said she, "you know nothing of how many of the venturesome folk, that have come to this deplorable country, have lost their money and their labour, and some of them their lives; how many have perished by disease, and how many by grief and disappointment; how many have turned idle, and fallen to drinking, and killed themselves by one bad

course or another ; how many have worked and worked, and yet lost every thing ; how many have been killed by the Caffres and the wild beasts ; how many have had their beautiful sheep, and cattle, and fields, parched up by the sun, or drowned by the rain, or eaten bare by the locusts ; and how many mechanics, and artists, and half-pay officers, and dancing-masters, have failed in their trades, or sunk under their new vocations ; with no skill to hold the plough, or drive a waggon ; and with the burning of a hot sun, or the soaking of deluges of rain ; and with weary journeys over the hills and plains ; and with climbing up and down the steep banks of the rivers ; and tumbling up the rocks, and sousing in the pools, and wading through the streams, and floundering in the marshes, and leaping over the clefts and precipices ; and all this, too, sometimes, by the pale creatures from the English workshops ! Ah ! my child," she continued, " there is no knowing what may have happened to your own friends themselves ; and I should not wonder if you never get sight of them as long as you live ; nor ever get back to your dear mother, and brothers, and sister, any more than you ever see these Hoylands that you talk of ! However, it may not be so bad as I am fancying ; and pray God, for your sake, my

poor child, that it may not! Many people have done very well here; and they say that there are plenty more a-coming. I hope your Hoylands have been lucky; and, as to your troubles, why, I hope that you will get over them! By and by, my husband shall put on his great coat, and his thick boots, and ride out to see what Mr. Jenkins says. Or, perhaps, somebody may come into the house, in spite of all the rain. So don't cry, my dear boy, whatever I may have said; and besides, if you can't find your old friends, why, perhaps, you may find new! And you are so like my Jeremy, that I could feel in my heart to do nothing but kiss you all the day! Only your hair is a little chestnut, and his was a little reddish; and, to be sure, your face is rather round, and his was rather long; and your skin is clear, and his was a good deal freckled; and you are tall and slim, and he was short and thick-set; and his legs were a little bandy, or so,—but that was what would have altered as he grew up. So, don't cry, my dear little boy! There is room for hope yet! When things come to the worst, they will mend; and there's comfort for you! The back is fitted to the burden. There is a Providence in all things; and they say, 'God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb!'

CHAPTER XLI.

—— Very mournful is the tale
Which you so fain would know !

HERMIT OF WARKWORTH.

DAVID JENKINS was an industrious emigrant from Wales. He had been used to the milking of cows, and the breeding of goats; and he had heard, at the fair, at Cardigan, that goats and black cattle, to say nothing of sheep, were thriving stocks at the Cape. He believed, also, that the soil would scarcely refuse him a crop of leeks; and thus secure, as he promised himself, for his old age, and for his wife and children, in fair allowances of leeks and cheese, and trusting for all that might come besides, he gave up his lease, and sold his chattels, in the principality; and, looking, for a last time, upon Snowdon and Plinlimmon, steered for Table Mountain and the Lion's Head ! He had prospered from the first

hour of his landing; and now, after selling his farm in the neighbourhood of Somerset to much advantage, he had purchased another at Bathurst, where he had built himself one of the best houses in the place; and where it seemed likely, for himself and his posterity, that the name of Jenkins would long remain. He already rivalled some of the boors of the country round. He had a farm of seven thousand acres; and when, at evening, his stock was driven home and counted, it would often number sixty horses, six hundred oxen and cows, and six thousand sheep, in addition to all his goats!

The rain being abated in the afternoon, the landlord, urged especially to the good errand by his wife, mounted the nag upon which he usually rode about his farm, and ambling to Graham's Town, bent his way to 'Squire Jenkins's, with the news of the remarkable guest whom Diederick Cuyler had set down at his house. David knew that there was, or that there had been, a settler of the name of Hoyland, in the district of Somerset; but his place had been remote from his own, and he remembered but little about him. He *thought*, however, that he had heard something unfortunate; but he would get into town in the evening, after the beasts were brought to *craal*, and take a pint,

and see the boy, and talk with the landlady; and he had a cousin who was starting for Somerset within a few days, and could easily take the boy along with him. Jenkins was as good as his word; and there was a whole council in assembly upon Charles's case. Nothing more precise, however, could even yet be learned, concerning the great object of his anxiety; and it was only resolved that he should travel with Jenkins's cousin, and that, on the following day, he should come up to Jenkins's craal, and see the goats, and the Welshman's children, and stay there till his departure. In the morning, therefore, a waggon, (for this was the smallest vehicle convenient,) driven by Hottentots, and resounding with the shouts of little Hugh, and William, and Winifred Jenkins, came to fetch himself and his sea-chest; the day was dry, though cloudy; the landlord and landlady gave him their blessing, and would not be paid either for board or lodging.

Charles revelled upon toasted cheese, and *bill-tongue*, or dried beef; and romped, and raced, and butted with the children and the goats and kids, for a whole week, before Jenkins's cousin arrived at Bathurst, on his way to Somerset. His heart, in the meantime, was anything but light; he sunk continually into gloom

and thoughtfulness; he dreaded his failure to find Martha Hoyland, or he dreaded to find her less happy than he had made himself certain; and, most of all, he dreaded the disappointment of all his hopes of hearing of his mother! At length, however, the expected traveller arrived, and Charles was willingly received into his charge; the Welshman and all his family bidding him an affectionate farewell, and heaping him with presents of eatables and rarities, and a sup of methlegin. A cheese was put into the waggon for his use; and even a kid, that had been some time weaned, and upon which the young horns were growing conspicuous, was put into the waggon also, with a collar and a cord; to be his playmate on the journey, and to dance or fight with him as the humour of one or both of them might order. Charles revived at the commencing of his journey, and at the acquisition of his kid, and at the sportiveness which the latter so continually exhibited; and already he fancied himself marching up to Martha's door, not exactly like a Taffy astride upon his goat; but with *the beginning of a flock* in his possession, and even now a goatherd, and a Cape husbandman and capitalist! "It is true," said he, "that I cannot show to Martha and her children a purse of twenty dollars; but she will be aston-

ished to find me with a kid of my own; and I shall let the children play with him, and tumble them over, and frighten them, and make them run, at nothing but the sight of his foolish little horns! Children are such babies!”

Charles was but little advanced upon his present journey, before he found the country much less uniformly fertile and pleasant, than in the belt which is laced with the sand-hills of the seashore. In various places, grass of every kind had vanished, and there were only patches of stunted shrubs, and mimosa thorns, to afford meat for the sheep and cattle. Upon this food, however, the herds fed with eagerness, and grew fat; the whole of those great numbers, which, from spot to spot, discovered themselves, appearing in the most excellent condition. They browsed over wide tracts of rock, and hill, and plain; doomed as it might seem, to perpetual sterility, so far as herbage was concerned, and were attended here and there, by a solitary Hottentot herdsman. Birds, which the colonists call sparrows, and which have much resemblance to the sparrow of Europe, were numerous about the thorny mimosas, in which trees they appeared to build their nests. The Cape bustards, (*poues* and *corhaans* or *cor-hens*,) and many other birds, including those of prey, with myriads of insects

and reptiles, to omit all mention of the antelopes and other beasts, were also numerous; and thus these wilds, so barren, at a first view, to human contemplation, were capable of sustaining living creatures, either wild or tame, but suited to the products, in numbers almost without limit. Pouws, corhaans, guinea-fowl, and what are here called pheasants, partridges, turtle-doves, and hares, were all in motion at the same time, roused by the noises of the wheels and waggons, and by the dogs which bore them company; but the latter were soon checked in their running at them, by the multitudes of a prickly kind of seed which were concealed between the trees and bushes, and blown about by the winds; and which, in size resembling a pea, presented (as natural *caltrops*) a thorn whichever way they fell. These seeds, in a particular manner, are the food of the guinea-fowls; and at the same time, (there should be no doubt,) a defence designed for them against the steps of their pursuers! The dogs, finding their feet wounded and encumbered by these seeds, which pricked and stuck to them, soon desisted from the chace, and walked soberly by the waggons. The art of war is thus without the honour of the original invention of the *caltrop*!

Going down, the day after, upon a surface

bordering a river, the country improved anew. The park-like scenery returned; and extensive lawns of grass were shaded, from space to space, by clumps and thickets of the mimosa. At a cleft in the mountains, the pasturage was rich, and a fall of water afforded refreshment to our travellers and their cattle; as it was also accustomed to do, daily, to all the vegetation, and to all the animal life, around it. On the third morning, the first few miles were still over a good pasture; but presently, again, the aspect changed, and became worse than even before. The whole was a succession of rugged, stony hills, with only heath-plants, and but these in patches. Many of these African heaths, however, were flowering in luxuriant gaiety, and the Cape-partridges, as the travellers proceeded, rose in large and frequent coveys. The road lay on a steep descent; and at the bottom passed between two chains of hills, with no more breadth than was sufficient to admit the waggon. Emerged from this, there was a large and fertile plain or valley, which it took three hours to cross, and where the heat and dust were almost intolerable. It had no water, except a few scanty pools, foul from the trampling of beasts; but at which the cattle, horses, and Hottentots, all drank with eagerness. The whole route was northward,

and gradually rising from the level of the sea; the sky cloudless; and the day (except for the great heats, at certain hours, and in certain situations) soft, and serenely beautiful.

The trees and shrubs were greener and more stout than those immediately below; and here the trees, especially the mimosas, had usually a parasitic plant about them, growing, not like the ivy upon the elm; that is, from a root nourished in the ground; but like the misletoe upon the oak, or from a root fixed upon the trunk or branches of the tree. Its flowers were somewhat like the flowers of the honey-suckle; but it never, like what often happens with the honey-suckle, grew alone. A sort of misletoe grew here as well, both on the Cape-oak and the mimosa. Yet here, upon a wretched spot at a small distance, stood the deserted house of a Dutch boor; and, taken altogether, the country was become worse. It was a lofty plain, or inclined *plane*, in which the Little Fish-river, following a serpentine track, has dug that track so deeply, that, to get a peep even at its waters, they must be looked down upon as into a pit. Surveyed from a moderate eminence, the course of the river might be marked by its willows-of-Babylon, and other shrubs and trees, which grow profusely at the bottom, and down the steep and

wall-like sides of its banks; and contribute largely, from that cause, to the concealment of the stream. One species of shrub was conspicuous through its contrast with the others. It was in full foliage and blossom, numerously branched, rich in its whole effect, and gracefully drooping. The upper ground, in spite of all, was desolate and naked, half beyond imagination. It might be called horribly barren. It grew sterile more and more; and began to resemble certain coal-countries; the more so from the black, slaty strata composing its rocks. Lions were well known in its neighbourhood; for, even here, were farms and Africaner settlers, some held, and some deserted; and an old, deserted military post. So violent, indeed, were the contrasts of the landscape, and so exclusively was the possession or want of water the sole cause of its sterility or fertility, that the waggons stopped, this morning, at a farm, where, aided by the vivifying element, there was a corn-field and a garden; the corn then cutting, and the fruit-trees filled with fruit; and, with these, two little water-mills! But all this was the reward of human labour only. A water-course, of four miles in length, led from the top of a dam which had been raised in the Great Fish-river, to the mills, fed, in its progress, the corn-field and the garden. Irrigation is the only source of fruitfulness, in

this, and in so many other parts of Southern Africa; and this art is now in as much request in the Cape colony, as anciently in Italy. The Dutch, indeed, have carried to the shores of Africa, the ancient agriculture, and this alone. The traveller sees everything, among the Africaners, just as Virgil painted it two thousand years ago;—the same burning climate, and the same thirsty soil, as Italy presented to the swains whom Virgil sung; the same instruments and usages of agriculture; the same rude plough; the same threshing, or rather *treading-floor*, in the open field, surrounded with no more than a mud wall; and the same treading out the grain by cattle, as in so many parts, of both the ancient and modern world, still nearer to our English home. A little further, at another farm of a Dutch boor, a *lead*, or water-course, of three thousand yards, enables the owner to irrigate two hundred acres of plough-land and a garden, and to turn a mill; and, with such assistance for the garden, vegetables can be raised in all the country, throughout the entire year. How the earth drinks in the water, when, during extreme heats, it is turned over it, is a sight which reminds the classical spectator of the monition in the Georgics :

“Claudite jam rivos, pueri; sat prata biberunt :”

which we translate :

“ Now stop the flow ; the meads have drank enough ! ”

They were now, however, approaching Somerset. The Boschberg was become visible upon the right of the road ; and, though still distant, that mountain, from the torrents which pour from it in the rainy season, was the plain cause of the dry but deep pits and channels which showed themselves so frequently upon every side. Here, however, there was grass, though generally of the sour kind ; and the country, opening, to the left, into gentle hills, and cheerful plains, improved afresh from mile to mile.

As darkness returned once more, a beautiful scene, peculiar only to the circumstances of so wild a country, presented itself to sight. Part of the Boschberg, as here seen, terminates, about eight miles away, in an abrupt point ; and this, from which, throughout the day, smoke had been observed to arise, wore, now, the look of a volcano. The grass was burning ; and the flame, growing brighter and brighter, was also extending itself down the side of the mountain. At one moment it appeared like a stream of lava, and at another resembled the ordered march of an advancing army ; while, from its being hidden, here and there, by patches of shrub, and

from the seeming motion of those patches, (occasioned by the real motion of the travellers, and the consequent intersections, and changes of position,) there might be fancied the firing of skirmishing parties, and their advances and retreats. So often do things visible repeat themselves, or different things take similar appearances, in all departments of nature, and even of art; and so easy it is to perceive one of the origins of those optical delusions, natural, or at least undesigned, which, time after time, have led men to imagine and believe that they saw things which had no real presence! Houses and trees, men and animals, mountains and lakes, water and fire; all are capable of seeming to exist where they have no existence; and all, reciprocally, may be mistaken for each other. The eye is only one of the organs upon which we depend for our knowledge of even visible objects. Incessantly it can deceive us; and there are few of its perceptions which do not require, or do not habitually, and without observation, receive, the support of other organs of sense, before we obtain real assurance of the veracity of the impression. We must often correct, or bring to the test, the impressions of sight, by joining with them those of the touch, the hearing, or other senses; in the same manner that we assist those with

sight. None of the senses can commonly be trusted by themselves; and it has been one of the most fertile sources of error, (more especially as to fanciful and marvellous appearances,) to give that credit to solitary conclusions from sight, which we seldom yield to conclusions dependent upon any other sense exclusively!

But, changing the direction of his road, the blazing point of the Boschberg withdrew from Charles's observations, and presently afterward, too, even its reflection in the adjacent atmosphere; and, now, again, the diversion, which either that or any other spectacle on his way, had afforded him, gave place to those palpitations of heart with which he drew near to Somerset, and thought of the fresh answers which he was to hear, to all the old inquiry about Martha Hoyland, and her husband's farm! In an hour and a half after the sunset, they were passing through some excellent corn-land in front of the town, and beholding, even through the gloom, the roofs and elevations of several handsome buildings, relieved against the dark and lofty mass of the Boschberg; and Charles, in the front of the waggon, eager for the place where it was to stop, was pressing his kid to his bosom (its nose under the frill of his shirt, and its forelegs bent upon his lap;) and telling it the company it was soon to

be introduced to, and the manner in which it was to behave : “ But oh ! ” cried he, in conclusion, “ suppose we should never find them ? Suppose they are dead, or gone away ? What shall we do, then, Nanny ; (for he called it *Nanny* ;) and where shall we go, and how shall we live, and how shall I hear of mother ? And suppose she should be dead, as well as Martha ? Oh ! what a lone child am I ; and what will become of me in these barren wastes, and upon these dark mountains and naked rocks ; and with nothing but the sky above, and with the sea between me and home ? ”

Charles had travelled comfortably and playfully with his kid, the dogs, and the Hottentots ; and he, and all his companions had feasted upon his cheese, and bill-tongue, and white bread, and pot of honey, and flask of methlegin, and the kid had browzed its fill upon the sweet shoots of shrubs and bushes ; but Jenkins’s cousin had turned out a silent man, taking but little notice of him, save that he rode safely, and was not left behind ; for, withal, he was not of the best temper, and a little the worse for envy of his cousin’s remarkable good fortune. In reaching, however, the door of a house at the entrance of the town, and bringing his oxen to a stand, he told Charles that this was the end of

their journey, and that now was the time for him to inquire after his friends from England !

And Charles, and his kid together, had sprung from the waggon, and were ranged among the group which, collecting and surrounding the house-door, as the waggon had been heard to approach, and as it was seen to draw to Reece ap Reece's white-faced mansion, the sign of the Prince's Feathers, and of the head of the Marquess of Anglesey ! Reece ap Reece was another cousin of Charles's guide, and of the latter's cousin, David Jenkins ; and Charles, attracted by his round smiling face, as well as by the light in his hand, and the apron on his knees, made him the first to whom to address himself, for news of Martha Hoyland. But the two Welshmen were talking Welsh, and asking and answering questions of their own, with a rapidity, and loudness of voice, which forbade that Charles should be either attended to or heard, and drove him, at random, to the lookers on. " Pray, sir, where is Mr. Hoyland's farm ? " " Pray, sir, do you know Martha Hoyland ? " These were the questions which he put to each ; and, before two or three of the strangers (all eager to look at the waggon, and to learn the news from Bathurst and below) had been prevailed to give half an ear, and then their hasty answer,

that they knew no such farm or person; before this, Charles had returned to the host of the Prince's Feathers, and pulling him by the sleeve, and keeping hold of one of his hands, "Oh! do tell me, sir," said he, with supplication, and in anguish, "where is Martha Hoyland's? Where is my godmother's farm; she that knows my mother, and that wrote word, that if my mother would send me to Africa, she would take care of me in her own house?"

"Martha Hoyland!" cried, at length, the good landlord, Reece ap Reece, (his candle still alight, but his face no longer lighted with a smile;) "and is it Martha Hoyland dat dis pretty little Sassenach is splutter all dis about; and about Tom Hoyland's farm, and about his moder, and his godmoder, and about his godmoder's ownhouse?" And, then, (first asking his cousin, in Welsh, whence the young Sassenach, or Saxon, or English boy, had come, and one or two other particulars :) "Ah! my poor child," he resumed, "your poor godmoder has no longer any house of her own to take care of you in! The poor thing! she has no longer a house for her poor self. What! don't you know that her husband is dead, and her children too, (at least Jemmy and Sukey, that is,) and the farm sold, and poor Martha gone to be a *help*, (that is,

a servant,) I hardly know where, but full a hundred miles away ! This is bad news for you, my poor boy ; but how came you to be sent here, and when did you come from home, that you did not know it all before ?”

Charles’s lip had quivered from the moment that the Welshman began to speak ; and, presently, he had gasped for breath. His tongue grew too large for his mouth, and he had no power to speak. But, in another moment, the tears gushed from his eyes ; and, letting go the string which confined his goat, and lifting again and again his hands and feet, sobbing and screaming convulsively, and groaning, weeping, complaining, he cried out, alternately : “ Oh my poor godmother ! Oh my poor little Jemmy and Sukey ! Oh mother ! why did you let me come here ? Oh father ! why did you bring me ? Oh mother—and, perhaps, you are dead too ? And, perhaps, sister and brother are dead, like Jemmy and Sukey ; and like Martha Hoyland’s husband, and like my own father ; and, perhaps, only I am left alive, and nobody to take care of me ! How shall I hear of mother ? How shall I find Martha ? Oh ! oh ! oh ! who will tell me of my mother ?”

CHAPTER XLII.

—— O life of blessedness !
To reap the fruit of honourable toil,
And bound our wishes with our wants.

SOUTHEY.

WE have brought, in this manner, the history of the wanderings of our orphan in Africa almost to the period of one grand but melancholy epoch in its course; the total disappointment of all the hopes and expectations under which those wanderings had been pursued;—hopes and expectations from the discovery of Martha Hoyland, and of the promised shelter of her home: expectations, too, and hopes, still dearer, united, in the mind of the sufferer, with that discovery and that shelter—the present news of his mother, and the future restoration to her arms !

But our pages have filled too fast to allow that we any longer continue to relate in detail even a small part of the numberless incidents

which yet intervened, between the event of our preceding chapter and the true catastrophe of our tale, and which gradually prepared its arrival such as it will finally be seen. Already, in more than one part of our work, and as our readers have been plainly told, the obligation to press forward, has placed us in the necessity of being silent upon an abundance of particulars; and here, still more to our own regret, and to the most deep regret of our readers, (if they knew all,) we are forced to crowd into a few sentences, what ought to have been expanded into nearly as many chapters!

The Welsh landlord and his wife, and his wife's sister, soothed to the utmost of their power the sorrows of poor Charles. There was but one way, however, in which they could yield sustainment to his almost broken heart; and this was by inquiring for him, in every imaginable direction, after the sad retreat of Martha! Months passed in these inquiries, apparently in vain; and, during that long interval, it was only to the hospitality of the Welshman, assisted by the neighbours, that the grieving exile owed his food and lodging.

At length, a hope, like a watery sun, brightened above him; not to dispel, but only to render less dark, the clouds of his affliction. Passing

from one settler to another, news was brought of the place to which the widow had gone in service; and far distant as it was, means were soon afterward found to send him, from hand to hand, and though by a circuitous and tedious route, to that last aim of his diminished prospects. He reached the farm to which he had been directed; he reached it only to learn that it was two years since Martha, carrying with her little Sukey, (for the reported deaths of both her children were half mistaken,) had seized upon a sudden and rapturous opportunity afforded her for returning to England; that she had gone; and that nothing more had been heard of her!

Oh desolation, solitude, despair! Charles threw himself upon the earth; but even the earth—the earth of Africa—could offer him no pillowy bosom! He turned and tossed upon it in restless agony; it was foreign to him as the sky that covered it; he was alone—he thought himself alone—a solitary emmet upon a naked globe—a friendless birdling in a vacant sky! Here, then, was the real finish of the long tale of his African expectations! Here ended his voyage and his journey, which were to have carried him to his godmother! Here broke his final tie to Africa! Now, he was indeed a stranger!

A new existence, and no other, was be-

fore him. All things past were, for the moment, sundered from all things future. The vision that had fed him, the object that had animated him, the dream that had constantly blended, in his fancy, the Africa around him, with the England that was behind him; all had vanished! Africa, desolate Africa,—the dull and hopeless reality of Africa, was all that remained to him; England was gone; imagination died in him!

But grief wears itself out. His passionate grief subsided, and reason and recollection began their slow return. He became calm and thoughtful upon the earth, and he no longer refused the words of comfort addressed to him by his new acquaintances. He inquired further concerning Martha's departure, and the light presently broke upon his mind, that if the widowed, friendless, almost childless Martha, sooner or later, could find a passage back to England, so might he! He compared Martha's sorrows with his own; he found that himself and she were joined in misfortune, and that they might yet be joined in its alleviation. He was now old enough to work in Africa, like Martha; and means might be presented to him, as to Martha, for going back to England. More than all, the history of Martha's departure brought out news

of his dear mother ! Martha had told the mistress with whom she had lived a hundred particulars concerning Margaret Laleham. She had received more than one letter from her during her service. It was chiefly at Margaret's instance and invitation that she had been roused from her despondent resignation in Africa, and sought her return to England. She had talked to the mistress with whom she lived, of her ancient schoolfellow, and of the happy hills of Derbyshire. She had talked, too, of John Laleham's voyage and shipwreck, and of the lost orphan Charles; for lost she had believed him to be. Lady Pontefract had written to Lady Willoughby, and had even arrived in England, and conversed with Lady Willoughby; and the latter had reported all to the subdued and ever-sorrowing Margaret, before the date of Margaret's latest letter to Martha. Margaret, as it now appeared, was in the belief, when she wrote the letter, that her child had perished in the forests of Africa, no less than her husband upon its coasts; for Lady Pontefract's latest news, first recounting Charles's departure from Cape Town with the Land-drost, the Land-drost's death, and Charles's cheerful message by Mynheer Van Dunderblouwer, ended with the despairing tale of his total loss,

after having been seen in the woods by black Zephyr ! Margaret knew nothing (how should she ?) of his deliverance by that angel of the desert—the tiny Bush-girl ! What tears, what agonies of tears were used to overwhelm the melancholy Martha, when she added to these histories, that of her own share in all this breaking-in upon the happiness of her dear schoolfellow,—in the imagined miserable death of her dear godchild ; and when she added, even to these, the recollection of the house and fields and garden to which she had invited all to come, and where, with her husband and her children round her, she had believed that with bliss and pride she should received them all—and rosy, curly, blue-eyed Charles among the foremost ;—what tears, what agonies of tears were used to overwhelm her at those moments, were now transferred to the youthful and lorn stranger !

Amid so many subjects, however, for even new and aggravated anguish, Charles had found one, at least, to fill him with extatic joy ! His mother was alive ; two years ago, his mother was alive ! Two years ago, Lady Willoughby, likewise, (his mother's sure protector,) was alive ! Of his brothers and his sister, his comforters could not say that they remembered Martha to have spoken ; but they knew that any

misfortune, besides those of the loss of her husband, and of the child that was with him, had never been mentioned by Martha, as filling the bitter cup of Margaret Laleham. Here, then, was hope renewed. Here were visions reappearing. Here were aims again to be pursued. Here were objects to engage the present and long future moments. His mother was to be written to. That she lived still was to be anxiously discovered. His present livelihood was to be gained. His return to England was to be eagerly accomplished, or at least steadily endeavoured after !

By degrees, too, Charles came to the further consolation of reflecting, that his mother, if living, (and of this there was no reason to doubt,) was in all probability in possession of later intelligence concerning him, than any of which she could have spoken, more than two years gone by, in her letters to her beloved Martha. Upon his return to Cape Town, the Vrouw Van Bomsterwyk, at his own earnest request, had engaged, first, Mynheer her husband, and next Mynheer the Colonial Interpreter, to write to her in the boy's own artless language ; and though Mynheer Van Bomsterwyk's hand-writing had turned out as illegible, as his broken Dutch and English had been found unintelligible ; and

though Mynheer the Interpreter had made a dry and pompous story, of what Charles had given him in charge in words that might have been said to kiss and weep; still, a letter had been sent, and with not more than two fatal blunders in the direction! But the Jew Benjamin, also, had undertaken the charitable task, addressing himself to his correspondent in Duke's Place, in London, adding even a postscript at the dictation of Namal and Sambayana; in which latter the mourning widow was assured that her child lived for her, and in all their hearts; and was more handsome than the peacock, more lovely than the lotus-flower, and more innocent than the milk-white dove! Even the Governor's secretary, too, at the petition of the anxious Jew, had written to Lady Pontefract, informing her late Excellency of Charles's safety in Cape Town, and embarkation for Algoa Bay: "It behoves Israel," said Benjamin and his sister Brinah, "to befriend the stranger; for has not the Law commanded it of him? Has it not charged it upon him by his recollection of his own need of hospitality? Has it not said, 'For ye are strangers and sojourners in the land, as all your fathers were?'" In truth, Margaret had heard, and had written to her son, at Graham's Town; but who, at Graham's Town, had

known any thing of the little wanderer, Charles Laleham? especially after the death of Hoyland, and the removal of Martha?

Better things, however, were in store for all. The English settlers to whom Charles had travelled upon the report of Martha's residence with them, were poor, and had many children; so that they could neither befriend him, nor offer him employment, to their wishes. But Charles was now old and strong enough to make himself useful upon a farm; and he had learned, as we intimated in its proper place, something of the peculiar duties to be performed upon a Cape farm, at the Dutch boor's, in the neighbourhood of the sea-coast. Able and willing, therefore, to work, he soon found a settler to hire him; his business being, at times to drive the team at plough, at others to pick stones, and almost at all times to assist in the troublesome charge of getting the cows, half wild, to submit to their milking, in the craal. The condition, in the meantime, of many of the settlers was anything but certain; and it soon happened that Charles's first master fell into ruin, and could no longer retain him for his plough-boy. Years now followed. The changes of place, and the vicissitudes of fortune, among the masters whom he served, still occasioned him several

removals, and such as gradually led him into parts of the colony remote from that in which he first began to eat the bread of industry ; and it was one of the many afflictions of those removals, that even now an interval of four distressful years elapsed, before Charles attained to the enjoyment of that object of all his waking and his sleeping thoughts—the reception of a letter from his mother, and the acquisition of the certain knowledge that his mother lived—that she knew himself to be alive ; that his brothers and his sister were living also ; that Martha Hoyland and Sukey were again his mother’s neighbours at Cherryburn ; and that all were well, except for the abiding grief for that which each had lost ! The alterations of Charles’s abode, the mismanagement in forwarding former letters upon both sides, had occasioned the long delay, but now it had ceased to be. Martha’s ancient mistress had written for Charles at the beginning. Charles had learned to write and read, and could scarcely hold a pen before he had written also ; but, in one way or another, the correspondence of the Lalehams, as formerly that of the Hoylands, had met with many obstructions between England and Africa, and between Africa and England.

But Charles’s transport, at the final reception

of all this news from home, and at the prospect of a communication uninterrupted, only redoubled his zeal and industry in labour, and sharpened his impatience again to behold his mother. He had reached his fifteenth year. He was the foremost in activity, and in trustworthiness, upon the farm where he now lived. In spite of fatigues, of dangers, and of burning suns, his days were cheerful, and his nights were peaceful. Hope was his divinity, and it sustained and blessed him. He was a toiler of the field, that—

——“Like a lacquey, from the morn till eve,
Sweats in the eye of Phœbus and all night;
Sleeps in Elysium.”

If Charles's infancy had obtained him friends through its helplessness and its misfortunes, his youth obtained him them also, by its capacities and its virtues. Industrious, skilful, obedient, cheerful, diligent, faithful, hating a lie; the son of Margaret, and of that just and worthy father whom the waves had swallowed, confirmed in every heart, by the merits of his conduct, the prepossessions invited by his countenance, his figure, and his air; and, when (as unfortunately in previous instances) his latest English employer became unable to continue his wages, or

even his food, such was the character for which, for miles and miles around, Charles had made himself to be distinguished, that he was speedily established in a new and even better home. A good character, it has often been said, is a brilliant fortune; and though this, like every general truth, may fail of universal experience, Charles became one of those in whom it was exemplified, if that moderate sufficiency of means to which it early led him, and which he long enjoyed contented and at peace, may receive, with the reader's consent, the name of—though not perhaps, a brilliant, yet—a happy fortune! Charles passed into the employment of a substantial and venerable boor, (by name Van Dam Van Yssel,) happy in circumstances, but almost bereft of kindred; and one who, through the innocence and virtues of his own life, had long been pointed at as an ornament of his station and his country. Charles was the favourite and the dependence of the old man, but his heart, nevertheless, was always turned toward England; and the concern of all his hours was that of acquiring the means, and finding the opportunity, to embark once more upon the ocean, and reach the port that would open to him the road to his mother!

Yet there arrived his seventeenth birth-day,

and he was still a hind in Africa, tending the flocks of Mynheer Van Dam Van Yssel. The anniversary was beautiful as to the skies, and the boor made it a feast upon the farm. The daily duties were nevertheless performed; and at evening, before the mirthful supper was to be begun, Charles lodged the sheep and other cattle in the craal, while the pleased and benevolent boor looked smiling on, delighted with the condition of the whole, and counting their amazing numbers.

It was this evening, then, that after the finishing of the supper, and after the departure of the guests, Mynheer Van Dam Van Yssel opened to Charles the determination which he had long framed, to make the English orphan-boy his heir! He indulged, too, in other subordinate arrangements for Charles's happiness and his own. It was his plan, that Charles's mother, and his brothers, and his sister should join the orphan in Africa, and settle upon the farm before himself should die; and further, that though he felt the desertion and distress which he was to experience in the absence of Charles, still the latter should sail for England, embolden them for their voyage, and conduct them to their new abode: "Go," said he, "and fetch dine moder, and dine broders, and dine

seester, and dine dog, and dine cat, and dine kettle, and dine stool; and plant them all about poor Van Dam Van Yssel, while he can still welcome them; and about the house and fields of the poor farm of Spek-boom!"

To tell the joy, the gratitude, which, from this moment, entered and kept possession of the breast of Charles, would be as impossible as assuredly it must be needless. Suffice it that we say, that all was speedily performed; that Charles sailed for England, found his mother, was received with rapture, overcame her fears of the voyage; and carried her, and his brothers, and his sister, and his dog, and his cat, and his kettle, and his stool, and Martha Hoyland and her daughter Sukey; and brought them all, to plant about good Mynheer Van Dam Van Yssel, while he still lived to welcome them, and about the house and fields of the fruitful farm of Spek-boom! Margaret and Martha were the more willing to encounter, even as to themselves, this great change in their scene of life, because both Widow Dovedale and Lady Willoughby had died; and Cherryburn, to neither of them, nor to their children, nor to their friends nor kindred, now remained what it had once been!

Charles's succeeding years may scarcely find a record in our book. We must not linger

to relate, how, after a short period more, he became the husband of Sukey Hoyland; nor how his cattle, and his fields, and his gardens multiplied and flourished; nor paint the picture when it could be said—

“ In Keisi’s stream his kine are lowing;
On Keisi’s banks his flowers are blowing:”

and still less can we make bold to anticipate the time when he came to be described as one who—

“ Tells to his sons his youthful tales,
In peaceful Chiun’s happy vales!”

So, neither, can we enlarge our pages, to satisfy the reader’s excusable solicitude for knowing the after-fates of Margaret and Martha, and those of Charles’s sister and his brothers. Let it be enough, that at least those of the two former were as serene as hearts with closed but not unaching wounds could find them! It is the same with others that have had their places in our story, and who were not unmet by Charles in later seasons of his life. We have done with most of these, and must resolve to pass all that concerns them over; but not so the lot of the little Bushman-girl, regarding which it is impossible for us to be wholly dumb. Charles had the indulgence granted to

him, even but a short time after his return to Africa, to be the means of saving her life from the midst of sudden danger, and when she, in her own turn, had lost father and mother; and when neither she nor Charles had reason to believe that the two, even if living, were living within leagues of one another! Charles brought into the presence of the grateful Margaret, the Bush-girl that had saved her child in the wilderness, and whom she loaded with thanks and benefits; he brought her, too, to his Hottentot mammy, whom, together with black Zephyr, he had gathered about him from Blouwveldt's; and under whose care she soon added the manners, and the virtues, and the knowledge, of civilized life, to the sweetness of her pristine nature. She learned, amid the thunders, as amid the calms, to believe herself—

“Safe in the hand of ONE disposing power;”

and she was married, not long after, to a faithful, generous, affectionate young Hottentot, Charles's chief keeper of his flocks.

For Charles himself, the adventures of his youth, if they had afforded him but little education in the arts and artificial information of his

time and native country, (and which are of high value in themselves,) they had not denied him a higher education still—the education of the bosom and the affections; the culture of the virtues of the breast. In an especial manner, they had brought him up, even unconsciously—unsuspected, and without the formality of lessons,—in that first of amiable, and wise, and happy or fortunate tempers of mind, which breathes the largest sentiment of esteem and admiration for all that is to be found, in man, and nature of the beautiful, the true, the just. It was not that he left himself unaware of the existence of their opposites; it was not that he had no eyes for what the world contains of the deformed, the false, the wicked; but that he did not pry for their discovery, did not hurry to the conviction, did not dwell upon it when convinced. He remembered always the speech of the Parsee, in the hut of Namal, from whom he had once heard—“It was the saying of the wise Jemsheed, Be in no haste to discover faults, but quick to discern beauties: the thorns of the sweet rose will last, after its fair leaves have withered!”

Charles, in his helpless orphanage, had not only found friends for himself, in every rank of civil life; among men of all complexions, faiths,

and countries;—a table and a dwelling-place in every spot and climate; but he had seen, also, that others were made participators as well, of the beneficence both of man and God. He loved, therefore, God and man. He knew that nature was not without its inflictions, nor man without his vices. He knew that the same skies could be alternately clear and dark, and even the same men kind and unkind, besides the diversities of men. He did not even flatter himself, that as to mankind, all who had shown him benevolence were uniformly distinguished for their virtues. But he gave large praises to what he saw good; he narrowed to the utmost the bounds of what was undeniably bad; and, above all things, he believed in good on all hands. His philosophy was a philosophy of love, founded upon respect and esteem for every thing around him; and this in an age when *hate* is the passion pre-eminently nourished; when all men, and all classes, are hourly incited reciprocally to hate their neighbours; to think them either enemies or unworthy;—and in a world, too, and among a species, of which it is the most prevailing of prevailing vices, less that men are ill themselves, than that they think ill of others!

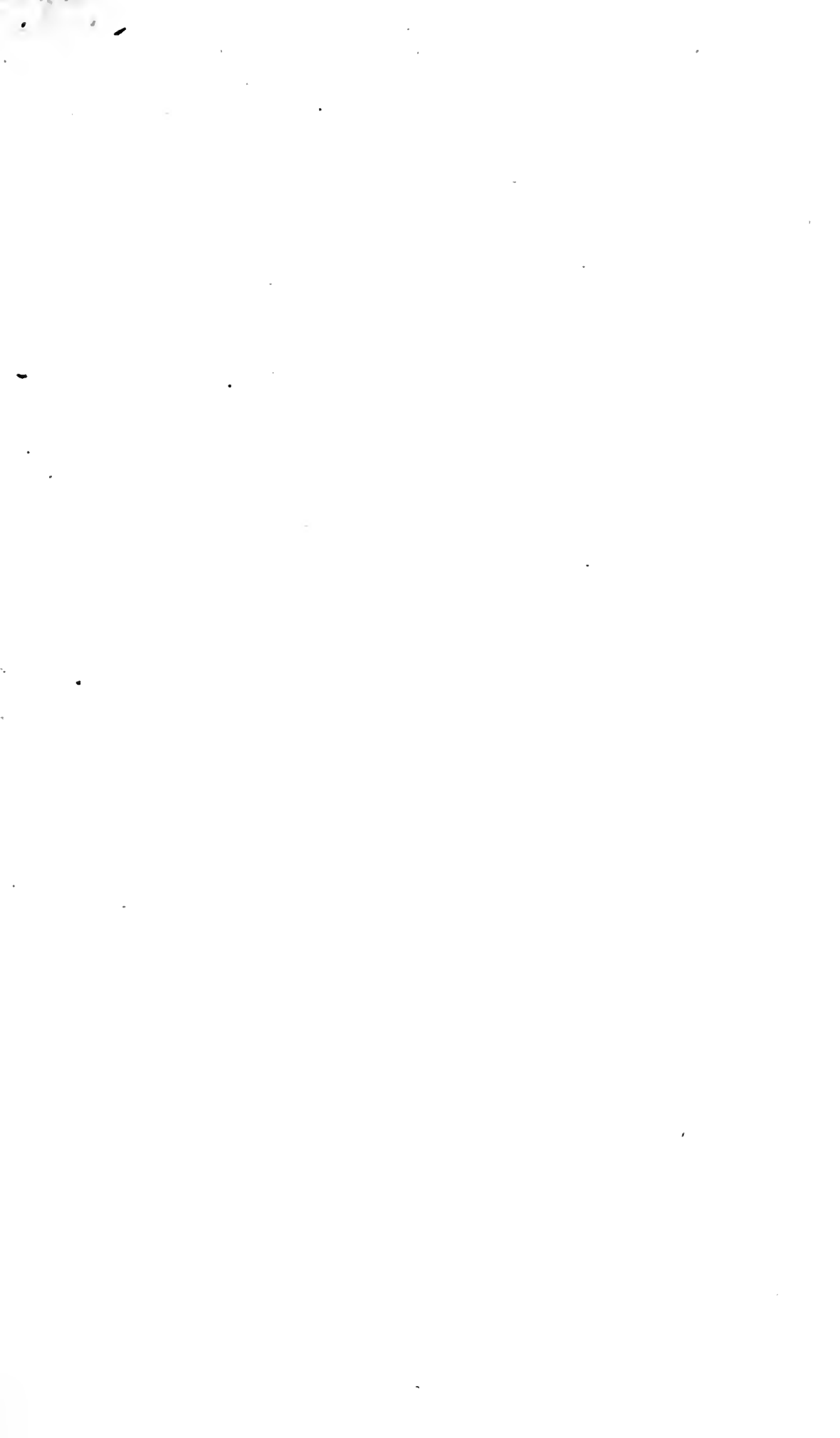
Thus satisfied, thus tranquil, thus confiding, thus at peace upon every side;—thus patient

under wrong and evil, thus grateful for the smallest good, Charles lived throughout his days, and reached their latest close. No wickedness against others, nor no anger against others' wickedness, even where he confessed the latter real; no plots to injure, no revenge for injuries; ever disturbed his sleep, or enfeebled his health, or disfigured his countenance. One spirit of content and peace obtained in him; one confidence in all things, and lands, and persons; not romantically extravagant, but practical and within limits; and such as the poet designs to express when he exclaims:

————— " I cannot go
Where universal Love not smiles around !
* * * * *

Should Fate command me to the utmost verge
Of the green earth; to distant barbarous climes,
Rivers unknown to song, where first the sun
Gilds Indian mountains, or his setting beam
Flames on the Atlantic isles; 'tis nought to me:
Since GOD is ever present, ever felt;
In the void waste, as in the city full;
And where HE vital breathes, there must be joy !"

THE END.



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